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HOME & EXPORT TRADE.

ON March 10 the Merchant Shippers' Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST will be published. The object of this number is to foster export business between manufacturers or wholesalers and the agents of buyers abroad, chiefly in British Colonies. These agents (merchant shippers) handle a large proportion of the twenty-seven millions odd of chemicals, drugs, and allied products which are exported annually from the United Kingdom. Doing business with merchant shippers is just like doing it with a home retailer. The Merchant Shippers' Issue takes advertisers into straight touch with shippers, and all business houses should secure space in the issue by writing to the Publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. We also call the attention of the photographic trade to the issue, which will mark the beginning of the photographic season. The circulation of the issue will embrace our unique list of home subscribers (practically all buyers) as well as thousands of chemists in the Colonies.

"DISEASES AND REMEDIES."

A NEW edition of this C. & D. book has just been published, and may be obtained direct from our office at 3s. plus 3d. for postage, or from any of the wholesale houses who stock our books. This is the third edition of a work which has proved to be most useful to chemists. Besides giving information in regard to diseases and the modern treatment thereof, the book contains surgical hints, what to do in cases of poisoning, notes on medical and surgical appliances, a chapter on dentistry, and one on sight-testing. It has been revised and enlarged.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column

TRADING-STAMPS have been made illegal in Jersey (p. 248).
THE LATEST DETAILS of South African trade are given on p. 280.

THE new items in the B.P.C. research-list are given on p. 257.

"PHENAZONE" is not to be registered as a trade-mark (p. 248).

THE Fraserburgh dispensing case has advanced a stage (p. 268).

THE duty on alcoholic products imported into India has been increased (p. 282).

MR. W. SWAN communicates a formula for an improved paraffin ointment (p. 259).

DR. JOHN A. SHAW-MACKENZIE replies to Dr. Beard's letter on cancer and trypsin (p. 273).

THE proportion of proprietaries in prescriptions is found to be 13 per cent. in Australia (p. 265).

THE GALEN CLUB of Paris entertained Mr. R. A. Robinson and Mr. Idris, M.P., last week (p. 251).

THE West Ham chemists came to town last week, on the occasion of their annual dinner (p. 258).

A REPORT of the annual meeting of the London Chamber of Commerce will be found in the Coloured Supplement.

A WHIST-MANIA has fallen upon provincial chemists, much to the pleasure of the ladies and themselves (p. 258 and p. 265).

It is proposed to promote a memorial to Dr. W. H. Perkin, to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his discovery of aniline colours (p. 264).

A NUMBER of chemists throughout the country have obtained wine-licences, but in some cases opposition has been marked (p. 249).

THE IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL has strongly commented upon the reduction of Pharmacy Act fines by the Lord Lieutenant (p. 279).

"XRAYSER" does not agree with Mr. J. C. Umney and others in their aspirations after duty-free alcohol for manufacturing purposes (p. 261).

INLAND REVENUE OFFICERS have summoned two retailers for selling dutiable medicines unstamped, and both have been fined. See reports on p. 268.

WE print some special information in regard to the Japanese iodine industry, which shows that the production has been kept up during the war (p. 263).

A CLAIM for COMPENSATION for disturbance made by a drug-store proprietor has been heard at Barking. The claim was 1,634*l.*, and the amount awarded 790*l.* (p. 270).

MR. W. V. JOHNSTON has resigned his seat on the Irish Pharmaceutical Council in order to apply for an examiner-ship. Mr. Brittain is also resigning (p. 279).

A CRISIS has now been reached in the dispute between the P.A.T.A. and co-operative societies. The leading wholesale body representing the latter is threatening manufacturers. We direct the earnest attention of all interested to the article on the subject on p. 263.

WE PRINT in full the important judgment by Mr. Swift, Magistrate of Dublin, who has decided that the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland has power under the Pharmacy Act to sue for penalties for infringement of the Sale of Poisons Act (p. 267).

CONCENTRATED INFUSIONS have again been studied by Messrs. E. H. Farr and R. Wright, and as a result they have devised rational methods for the preparation of practically all that are in common use. Their suggestions and comments on them by Pharmaceutical Society speakers are given on p. 252.

It has been suggested that chemists should treat sales of Easton's syrup and the like as "dispensing." We discuss the legality of this and advise retailers to wait for a pronouncement on the subject from the Pharmaceutical Council. Incidentally we point out that limited companies do not enjoy the special privilege given to registered chemists and medical practitioners in dispensing poisons (p. 262).

MARKET FLUCTUATIONS this week are few. Bromides continue as last week; quinine has been flat owing to the heavy bark sale at Amsterdam; opium is 4*d.* lower in Smyrna, and morphine and codeia will be reduced on Friday. Miteham peppermint oil, grey Jamaica sarsaparilla, nutmegs, and Madras turmeric are higher. Citric acid is firmer; castor oil, carbolic acid, and pimento are easier. Japan wax and menthol are lower (p. 275).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The Bradford City Council has decided to put the Shop-hours Act in force, but chemists are entirely exempt from it.

A young man, says the "Star," who has been fined 20s. for throwing an egg at Mr. Winfrey, M.P., during his election campaign in Norfolk, now agrees with Mr. Winfrey that for political purposes eggs come high.

The New Malden Urban District Council have accepted the tender of Messrs. M. Paine & Son for disinfectants—liquid at 1s. 0½d. per gal., and powder, 15 per cent. at 4½. 10s. per ton, and 10 per cent. at 2½. 2s. 6d.

The Comptroller of trade-marks has intimated that, in view of information received from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the application for the registration of the word "Phenazone" as a trade-mark has been refused.

A Portsmouth "dealer in photographic materials," who appeared in the Portsmouth Bankruptcy Court on February 12, attributed his failure to a "decline in the turnover through competition by chemists, illness of wife, and bad debts."

The Kensington Borough Council have resolved to increase the yearly number of samples obtained under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts from 500 to 700, and to raise the salary of the public analyst from 400l. to 500l. per annum—allowances and extra payments to remain as before.

The subscription to the Association of Assistants of the Society of Apothecaries has been fixed at 2s. 6d. The inaugural meeting is to be held at the Apothecaries' Hall on February 21. Mr. Albert Howell, Hackney Dispensary, Rosebery Place, Dalston, N.E., is the Hon. Secretary *pro tem*.

The Charlottenburg-in-London scheme has made a step forward, in so far as the Departmental Committee, over which Mr. Haldane presided, has issued its report on the position of the Royal College of Science, which is to be left alone, and not incorporated in the London University. This step is deeply deplored by Professor Karl Pearson in a letter to the "Times."

An alleged imitation Chartreuse has been occupying the attention of the Greenwich Magistrate this week, action being taken under the Merchandise-marks Acts against one Boitel for applying a false trade-mark to a liqueur not compounded by the Chartreuse Monastery. Imitation brandy is also in the case, and Mr. A. Gordon Salamon, F.I.C., is the principal expert witness.

At an inquest held at Todmorden on February 12, on the body of Leonard Wild, aged four weeks, the son of a cotton-piecer, it was stated that the child had been given a dose of soothing-syrup, which, upon being analysed, was found to contain opium. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from intestinal atrophy," and the Coroner spoke strongly against the practice of giving soothing-syrups to children.

The States of Jersey on February 12, by a large majority, passed a Bill whereby all persons, either principals or agents, who directly or indirectly do business by means of trading-stamps will be guilty of an irregularity, and will be subject for each infraction to a fine not exceeding 100l., or in default imprisonment not exceeding one year. The Bill was passed for three years, the President stating that it did not require Royal sanction.

At the inquest held at Bampton, on February 7, on the body of a child named Smedley, it was stated that shortly before its death the child had been given a quantity of "Dicky Briddon's Cordial," made by a Mrs. Proud. The "cordial" is a soothing-syrup with a local reputation, and is usually sold in a cup or bottle, without label or instructions. The coroner's officer was instructed to inform the maker of the cordial that it should be labelled.

Mr. Clarence Godfrey, chemist, of 10 Walton Crescent, Oxford, was the defendant in a libel action brought against him by the Rev. H. G. Bonnewell, Vicar of Seaford, in the High Court last week. Mr. Godfrey was ordered to pay 25l. damages and costs. He said he was a clergyman of the Church of England, but is now engaged in Oxford as a

chemist. We can ascertain nothing about him, and his name does not occur on the register of chemists, or in Kelly's Directory.

The Borough Council of St. Pancras has decided to institute a system of voluntary notification of consumption as an infectious disease, and has supplied medical practitioners within the borough with the forms necessary for the purpose. The explanatory letter sent with the forms points out that the assent of the patient should be obtained before any notification is made, that when made it will be treated as confidential, and that nothing will be done to prejudice the patient's occupation or employment.

At an inquiry at Cefncoed, Breconshire, on February 12, into the death of a married woman named Margaret Thomas, the husband stated that he took some drugs he found in her bedroom to Dr. F. Flood, who said they were all for the object of procuring miscarriage. A herbalist named Arthur Roberts, who, unknown to the husband, had prescribed for the deceased, was questioned by the Coroner as to the use of "pennyroyal and oil of chloroform" contained in recipes he had given to the woman. The inquiry was adjourned for an analysis of the stomach-contents.

Mr. R. Bremridge, writing to the "Times" of February 13 in regard to a report of the case of "McConnell v. Charles and Robert Andrews," tried at Manchester, says:

The defendants are described as "chemists." As the statutory keeper of the Registers of Chemists in Great Britain, I desire to state officially that neither of the persons mentioned is a chemist. As a matter of fact, they are engaged in the grocery trade, and cannot be expected to possess the technical knowledge and training that is so essential in the public interest in those who deal in drugs and medicaments.

In the City of London Court on Friday, February 9, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., an action was brought by Messrs. Merlander & Co., oil-merchants, Antwerp, to recover 6l. 1s. 5d. for engine-oil supplied to Mr. J. H. V. Corden, oil-merchant, Canal Street, Nottingham. The defendant pleaded infancy and sent up his birth certificate in support of the plea, telling the Court at the same time he was unable to spare the money to enable him to come to London personally. Judge Lumley Smith said the plea of infancy was a good defence, and the action must be struck out, the plaintiffs to pay the defendant's costs.

The Public Health Committee of the Marylebone Borough Council has accepted the following tenders for annual supplies: Messrs. Alfred C. Young & Co., carbolic acid (containing 90 to 95 per cent. of cresylic and carbolic acids having no repulsive odour, and being free from tar oils and sulphuretted hydrogen) 9d. per gal., carbolic acid powder (containing tar acids in a free form, the strength of the powder to be at least 15 per cent.) 2½. 4s. 6d. per ton; Messrs. A. Boake Roberts, sulphur dioxide (SO₂), 12-oz. cylinders 5½. 5s. per gross, 20-oz. cylinders 6½. 6s. per gross; and 18½. 18s. per gross, less 7½ per cent. discount.

Analysts' Reports.

In Wandsworth one sample of tincture of iodine was examined, with satisfactory results.

Camphorated oil was the only drug analysed in Staffordshire last quarter, and it was genuine.

In Lewisham two samples of lime-water were examined by the public analyst and found to be genuine.

Mr. J. Carter Bell, public analyst for Cheshire, in his quarterly report states that the samples analysed included nine of chlorodyne preparations and one of tincture of rhubarb, all of which were genuine.

The public analyst of Bethnal Green reports that during the quarter he examined one sample of linseed-meal, two samples of linseed oil, two samples of cod-liver oil, one sample of liquorice powder, two samples of camphorated oil, and one sample of arrowroot. All were genuine. During the year 1905 twenty samples of drugs were examined, and of these only three were found to be adulterated. Of the whole of the samples taken in the twelve months 10¼ per cent. were sophisticated, this being the lowest rate of adulteration experienced in the borough during the last ten years. The London average is 12½ per cent.

The public analyst of St. Pancras reports that during the past quarter he examined six samples of glycerin,

seven of camphorated oil, two of castor oil, and three of distilled water. All were genuine with the exception of the three samples of distilled water. Each of these samples consisted of 7 oz., and the results of his examinations were as follows:

No. 1. This article does not conform to the B.P. standard; it yields more than a scarcely visible residue from 25 c.c.; does not retain its colour when treated in prescribed manner with K_2MnO_4 and H_2SO_4 , and contains 3.5 parts per million of ammonia instead of 0.005 part. Nos. 2 and 3. These articles do not conform to the requirement of the B.P. They do not retain their colour when treated in the prescribed manner with potassium permanganate, and contain 0.35 part of ammonia per million parts instead of .005 part.

Chemists' Licences.

An off wine and sweets licence has been granted at Truro to the Timothy White Co., Ltd.

At Warrington on February 13, Mr. H. W. Turton, chemist, Stockton Heath, was refused a wine and spirit licence.

At Morpeth Brewster Sessions a wine-licence was granted to Mr. Alfred George Marshall, chemist and druggist, Bridge Street, Morpeth.

The Market Rasen Urban District Council have granted petroleum-licences to Mr. W. B. Jevons, chemist and druggist, and to Mr. James Casterton, chemist and druggist.

At the Barnsley Borough Licensing Sessions applications by Mr. H. B. Billington, chemist, 125 Sheffield Road, and by Mr. W. A. Bellamy, chemist, Eldon Street, for licences to sell wines "off" were granted.

At Hull Licensing Sessions on February 7, Mr. Lawrence Bowdler King, chemist and druggist, 28 Prospect Street, was granted an off wine-licence on an undertaking being given that he would only sell medicated wines.

At Wigan Licensing Sessions on February 8, Mr. Frederick James Skirrow, chemist and druggist, of 34 Bridge Street, Hindley, was refused an off wine-licence, although he offered to give an undertaking that he would sell nothing but medicated wines.

At Westbury Brewster Sessions on February 12, an application made by Joseph Henry Benjamin Green, chemist and wine and spirit merchant, of Warminster Road, for a beer-dealer's additional retail off-licence, was opposed on behalf of the "local residents," but the application was granted.

At the Nottingham Licensing Sessions on February 13, Mr. Thomas Freeman, chemist, of 51 Mansfield Road, was refused an off-wine licence, although willing to give an undertaking only to sell such wines as came within the definition "medicated," and as were prescribed by medical men.

At the Ely (Cambs) Licensing Sessions Mr. John Adams Gardiner, chemist and druggist, High Street, was granted a spirit-licence. It was stated that customers who came with a medical prescription often wanted spirits, as the doctor had ordered that a stimulant should be taken as well. When customers found that spirits were not sold they took away the prescription.

At Plymouth Brewster Sessions on February 6, Chief-Constable Sowerby drew attention to the fact that several chemists' shops had half their window-space utilised for the display of spirits and wines, giving the windows more the appearance of those of public-houses. He considered the Act never intended such a thing. The renewal of Messrs. Martin & Palmer, Market Avenue, and Mr. F. A. Goodwin, Mutley Plain, was held over until the adjourned Brewster Sessions on Tuesday, February 27.

At the Scarborough Brewster Sessions on February 13, the Chairman said the Justices had seriously considered the question of chemists' wine-licences, and were surprised to learn that chemists were selling ordinary wine as well as medicated. They considered there were serious and weighty objections, from a public point of view, to the general sale of wine in a chemist's shop, and it was the intention of the Justices to secure an undertaking from all chemists that no wine, other than medicated, should be sold on the premises.

At Heywood on February 7, Mr. Percy Jacques, chemist and druggist, of York Street, Heywood, applied for an off wine-licence, and in reply to the Clerk to the Bench said

he wanted to sell invalid port, but the principal trade would be in medicated wines. On the Bench refusing the application, the Mayor said the Magistrates felt that the licence ought only to apply to medicated wines. The solicitor for Mr. Jacques pointed out that as there was no such thing as a medicated-wine licence, his client was quite willing to be bound to use it for purely medicated wines if that was the feeling of the Bench. The application was adjourned.

It looks very much as though the whole question of chemists' wine-licences in Leeds is going to be considered by the Justices. At the City Brewster Sessions on February 8, applications were made on behalf of Taylors' Drug Co., Ltd., for medicated-wine licences for their shops in Guildford Street and Long Road; and a similar application was made by Mr. Arthur Vint, of Harehills Road. The Chief Constable read a letter from a local chemist, who complained of the abuse of the powers given him, in regard to selling medicated wine, by another chemist, with the result that the complainant's Christmas wine-trade was affected. The applications will be heard at the adjourned Brewster Sessions. In the meantime Mr. W. Huntrods makes the suggestion that in order to clear away the uncertainty which prevails as to what constitutes a medicated wine, a conference be held between the Justices and a deputation from the chemists.

Manchester Notes.

At the Manchester Chancery Court last week, Vice-Chancellor O. Leigh Clare, on the motion of the Saccharin Corporation, Ltd., granted an injunction against James Scott, mineral-water manufacturer, Bolton, to restrain him from infringing the saccharin patent by using saccharin not manufactured by the plaintiffs. The evidence was to the effect that in 1904 defendant purchased saccharin from Mack & Co., Hanson's Court, Manchester, which was an infringement of the patent. Injunctions have also been granted against Joe Lockwood, Levenshulme, and Samuel Frazer Jones, Woodbine Street, Salford.

The subject of "Standardisation" was discussed at the monthly meeting of the local Chemists' Association this week. Physiological standardisation was not mentioned by the reader of the paper (Mr. W. Kirkby, F.L.S.), and it received scant courtesy from those who took part in the discussion. It was considered to be outside the sphere of the retail pharmacist, for whom the Pharmacopoeia is intended. More importance was attached to the selection of good and uniform commercial varieties of drugs, and to their proper storage and careful preparation, than to over-fine standardisation methods. The qualification and personal responsibility of the pharmacist for the drugs he sold, it was argued, would become a mere farce if he were to rely entirely on wholesale warranties.

The Bogus Doctor.

At the Clerkenwell Assizes, on February 10, Charles P. White, who described himself as a medical man, was convicted of stealing two half-sovereigns from Mr. R. S. Starkie, pharmaceutical chemist, Trafalgar Square, W.C., and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. Particulars of the case have already appeared in our issues of January 6 (p. 20) and January 13 (p. 39). It came out in evidence that prisoner was a chemist's assistant, who had been discharged in December last for doubtful behaviour. His movements were traced to Brighton and Southampton, where it is alleged he obtained board and lodgings at several hotels under false pretences. Afterwards coming to London, he is said to have robbed three other chemists before being caught at Mr. Starkie's.

The Doctor Wins.

At a meeting of the Sevenoaks (Kent) Board of Guardians on February 8, a letter was read from Mr. W. Gurnell, chemist and druggist, Westerham, with regard to the supply of drugs and chemicals for the workhouse. Mr. Gurnell asked that he might be allowed to submit prices, or to make a comparison with London prices. Dr. Warde, the medical officer, being asked for his opinion on the subject, said he did not know that there was any advantage in getting drugs locally, except for the chemist. With regard to the prices, the only way would be to let Mr. Gurnell furnish a price-list and compare it with London prices. He added that the Board would have to wait two months for certain things if they were ordered locally. Mr. Burfoot asked if they could

not contract for drugs as they did for other things; but Dr. Warde said he thought it would be quite impossible. They did not know what would be wanted. Mr. Burfoot considered that if they could get drugs as cheap in the district they ought to do so; if not they should be obtained from London. Dr. Warde said that at present they got drugs at wholesale prices, less $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for a quarterly settlement. They got anything required in about two or three days, but it was very unsatisfactory to get drugs locally because they had to wait so long. Mr. Burfoot thought local chemists should get a chance, but the Board decided to make no alteration in the present system of purchasing drugs.

Sheffield Notes.

The second annual whist-drive, promoted by the Sheffield Pharmacy Athletic Club, has been fixed for March 1 at Hudson's Restaurant. The tickets (2s. 6d. each) are already going well.

The football team of the club has done rather well this season, winning four out of ten matches played, drawing three, and losing three, to date. There are about eight more matches still to play.

The Highways, etc., Committee of the City Council have approved the plans of alterations to the premises in West Street, Carver Street, and West Street Lane for Mr. C. A. Gardner, chemist and druggist (Messrs. Clark & Co.).

The Improvement Committee of the City Council have recommended that the sum of 950*l.* be paid to Messrs. Boots Cash Chemists (Eastern), Ltd., as purchase-money and compensation for their leasehold interest in a sale-shop and other premises in Shalesmoor, required for widening purposes.

The report of Mr. G. E. Scott-Smith, F.I.C., F.C.S., the City analyst, for the quarter ended December last shows that 169 samples were dealt with. Seven samples of sweet spirit of nitre and five samples of camphorated oil were the drugs included, and they were found to be "B.P."

Leeds Notes.

Leeds chemists are discussing "tabloid" prices, and they may join the crowd in a resolution.

"Some Causes of Fires in Mills, from a Chemist's Point of View," was the title of a lecture given by Mr. Thomas Fairley, the Leeds city analyst, before the Leeds University Textile Society on Tuesday night.

Chemists' accounts amounting to 26*l.* 14s. 8*d.* were stated on Wednesday to have been paid in connection with the Leeds Victoria Home for Invalid Ladies during the past year. Twenty-five ladies received the benefit of the institution in 1905.

Leeds chemists seem in no hurry to put the Shop-hours Act into operation. It looks as if chemists were waiting to see what the grocers are going to do before they move in the matter. The chemists in the suburbs have already the half-day holiday, and if these acted as the suburban hair-dressers are acting they would endeavour to bring the chemists in the centre of the city into line with them. It is improbable, however, that the central chemists will consent.

An alarming experience occurred to Mr. William Blakeley, chemist, of Borstal, outside the Leeds new station, on Tuesday evening, February 13. A hansom cab in which he was riding came into collision with a wall which divides the covered roadway, with the result that the vehicle was overturned. Both Mr. Blakeley and the driver were thrown to the ground, but neither suffered injury, though Mr. Blakeley was severely shaken. He was able to proceed on his railway journey home.

The competition for the Bowman prize scheme for Leeds chemists' apprentices will take place in May. The candidates are apprentices who are associates of the Leeds Chemists' Association, and must have passed an examination qualifying for registration as an apprentice or student of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Successful candidates in previous examinations are not eligible. The prizes are given by Mr. W. P. Bowman (Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co.), as an inducement to study on the part of apprentices. The names of competitors must be sent in by May 1.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

New Business.

Mr. John Saunderson, registered druggist, late with Mr. John Gray, Armagh, has taken the premises occupied for the last five years by Dr. Duncan, 17 Bridge Street, Ballymena, and will open them as a drug-shop about March 1.

Statistics.

The latest returns presented to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction by the Belfast Corporation show that the number of chemists, analysts, and druggists attending the classes at the Municipal Technical Institute is 104.

No Water for Dispensing.

A report was read at the last meeting of the Bandon (County Cork) Board of Guardians to the effect that the dispenser at Bandon Dispensary, having no water, could not dispense the prescriptions, and had to send the patients away without any medicine. A letter was ordered to be sent to the official in charge of the waterworks, directing him to have the water-pipes looked to.

Workhouse Dispensing.

At the Cork Board of Guardians meeting on February 13 a long discussion took place on the increase of the workhouse medical staff suggested by Dr. Biggar, Local Government Board Inspector. In the course of the discussion Sir Edward FitzGerald said that a dispenser was more required. He did not say that inmates prescribed, but his experience was that the inmates did most of the other work. He did not find fault with the doctors. There were no other medical men in the city acting as they had to act. The other medical men gave their prescriptions, and the dispenser compounded them; but the resident medical men there had to compound, which he did not think was the right thing. Dr. Cummins, one of the visiting physicians, said that he had never seen inmate attendants compounding, and the other two responsible surgeons could speak for themselves. The suggestion of Dr. Biggar as to the increase of the medical staff was adopted.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

An Ambitious Work.

A book has just been issued by Mr. Marcel Hardy, who has been for some years assistant to Professor Patrick Geddes, of University College, Dundee, which has an ambitious purpose. It is entitled "Esquisse de la Géographie et de la Végétation des Highlands d'Ecosse," and the aim, as indicated in the sketch, is to give a complete view of Scotland, its physical geography, geology, arboreation, distribution of plants and climate, and to show how vegetation in the forest lands and agriculture and pasturage have affected the character of the inhabitants.

Glasgow Notes.

At the Exhibition Hall, Duke Street, from February 21 to March 1, Messrs. William Gardner & Sons, Ltd., Gloucester, are to exhibit their sifters.

West End medical consultants complain that they have never had so few patients. It is also a sign of the persistent depression that there are scores of applications for every vacant assistantship. One chemist recently had sixty applicants for a situation.

A local medico writes to an evening paper warning the public against the indiscriminate use of what he calls "pilules." He refers to the unchecked sale of such products, containing arsenic, strychnine, and other potent poisons, as a serious public danger, inasmuch as people have fallen into the habit of regarding "pilules" as innocuous.

Mr. D. P. Walker, chemist and druggist, late of New City Road, whose death took place a few days since, was a typical pharmacist of the old school. He had been in business for many years, and was a familiar personality in his

own neighbourhood. Ill-health compelled him to retire from business about a year ago. Mr. Walker did not take any active part in public affairs, but he was an old and loyal member of the local Association.

A joint letter appeared in the "Herald" of February 8, signed by the Presidents of the two local Chemists' Associations, in which they controverted Captain Sneddon's assertion that chemists are implicated in the sale of methylated spirit as a beverage. As representing the majority of qualified retail chemists in Glasgow, the writers positively denied the accuracy and justice of Captain Sneddon's charge. They affirmed that chemists are always careful to fulfil their moral not less than their legal obligations, and recall the fact that the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association played an influential part in bringing about the prohibition of the Sunday sale of S.V.M. Finally they protested against Captain Sneddon's innuendo that Glasgow chemists are "squalid shebeeners." There has been no rejoinder.

The Week's Poisonings.

TWO of the nine fatalities from poisoning that have been recorded during the week were misadventures. At Birmingham, Elizabeth Bradshaw (68) drank an overdose of chlorodyne in error, and died. An accidental overdose of laudanum caused the death of Frank Hume (26), a commercial traveller, who lived at West Jesmond. Emily Emyntrude Bryant (14), a daughter of the Vicar of Stoke Lyne, poisoned herself with potassium cyanide. Three suicides occurred with carbolic acid. It was taken by Mary Elizabeth Green (54), of North Walsham; by Mary Kelly (55), a Salford widow, and by Ernest Boxall, a Horley labourer. George Cutcliffe (73), an inmate of Swansea workhouse, swallowed some tobacco, and died from paralysis caused by nicotine poisoning. Hydrochloric acid caused the death of Jeremiah Curtis (60), of Belfast, and of George Halle (16), of Clerkenwell. In the latter case the youth had been a great reader of books of the "penny dreadful" class. At the inquest on Halle, held at the City Coroner's Court on February 14, a jurymen asked if spirit of salt was not a scheduled poison. Dr. F. J. Waldo (the Coroner) replied that unfortunately it was not. Evidence was given by John Arthur Cranfield, manager to Messrs. Davis Bros., oil and colourmen, of St. John Street, Clerkenwell, to the effect that the boy had brought a cup and obtained from him a pennyworth of spirit of salt. Witness put a poison-label on the cup, although he was not required by law to do so. Some oil and colourmen put a label on, but many did not. The only things they refused to serve in were ginger-beer bottles or mineral-water bottles generally, but they always served in a cup or gallipot. In reply to the Coroner, witness said it would be a good idea to put the name of the poison on the cup, but he did not see that it would do any real good to confine the handling of poisons to chemists.

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C. & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.) will be esteemed.

- 219/63. Makers of F. S. Moll's pumice-stone soap.
- 218/16. Maker of Ashworth's (late Fell) toilet-gloves.
- 216/49. Where can Wright's "Ixon" biscuits be obtained?
- 215/37. Where can "Saxonia" tooth-powder be obtained?
- 216/16. Who are agents for Kaehler & Martini's chemical apparatus?
- 216/33. Wholesale dealers in graduated medicine-measures that sell at a penny each.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

SIR WILLIAM CROOKES, F.R.S., was this week unanimously elected a corresponding member of the Paris Academy of Sciences.

THE PARIS DRUGGISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION held its annual general meeting at the Mairie of the Fourth Arrondissement recently. The balance-sheet showed an excess in receipts of 280% over expenditure for 1905, and a capital of 10,000%. Forty new members were elected.

AT PARIS UNIVERSITY.—In receiving the London County Councillors at the Sorbonne the vice-rector, M. Liard, remarked on the comparatively small number of English students attending the University of Paris. Going into statistics, M. Liard said there were about 1,700 who had left their native countries to obtain instruction at Paris. In the faculty of law, out of 478 foreign students 13 were English; in medicine 5 were English out of 380; in the faculty of sciences there were only 3 English in a total of 290 foreigners; while at L'Ecole Supérieure de Pharmacie there was one Englishman out of 23 students from other countries.

OLD WINE IN NEW BOTTLES.—The aromatic savour of old wine is held to be due to slow oxidation. Many attempts have been made by chemists to find a speedier process which would give the same "bouquet" hitherto without success. M. Garçon now tells us that an ingenious inventor proposes to use an apparatus (a sort of "pasteurisateur" with parallel plates), in which the wine is first heated to boiling point in presence of compressed air and then passed into an "exchanger of temperature." This double process is followed by a third which consists in lowering the temperature to a few degrees below freezing. A filter-press is then used, and thus gives a limpid wine of excellent taste "aged" by about three "years" in a few minutes. The saving effected is stated at about 100 fr. per 300 litres (1s. 4d. per gal.).

THE COVETED CROSSES.—There at last seems some hope of the successful exhibitors at the St. Louis and Liège Exhibitions obtaining the crosses of the Legion of Honour after which some of them aspire. The committee nominated by the French Parliament was hostile to the idea, but the Minister of Commerce charged M. Astier (ex-pharmacist and "rapporteur" of the project) to go into the question again. He recommends that only those who can count twenty years' honourable service in Chambers of Commerce, consultative committees, trade associations, etc., shall be allowed the red ribbon—ten years in case of exceptional services and five years if they have received highest honours at an exhibition in which France has officially taken part. It seems that twenty-six "officers'" crosses of the Legion of Honour and 101 "chevaliers" are to be awarded in connection with the commercial part of these exhibitions. Naturally, manufacturers and exhibitors are on the tip-toe of expectation till the "red rain" falls.

GALENIC GREETING.—On the evening of Thursday, February 8, some of the English chemists' assistants in Paris, constituting the "Galen Club," gathered together in their customary meeting-place (Ruby Tea-rooms, Passage de Choiseul, near the Avenue de l'Opéra) for the purpose of receiving Mr. R. A. Robinson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and Mr. Idris, M.P. These gentlemen had given up attending an important reception at the French Ministry of the Interior in order to be present, a fact which gave those who arranged the little meeting much gratification. The leading British pharmacists were not invited to the meeting, and were not present. In the course of the evening Mr. Robinson, after congratulating the members on the numerical strength of the Association, expressed the hope that English pharmacists would eventually attain the high status already secured by their French *confrères*. Mr. Fothergill, President of the club, having replied, the usual loyal toasts were drunk, and Mr. Idris expressed his appreciation of the great hospitality he had enjoyed in Paris. A vote of thanks to the Councillors and a musical entertainment closed the proceedings. Colonel Clifford Probyn attended the important official reception at the Ministry of the Interior.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

EVENING MEETING.

NOTWITHSTANDING the inclement weather there was a fair muster of chemists at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on February 13, on the occasion of an evening meeting of the Society. The President (Mr. R. A. Robinson) was in the chair, supported by the Secretary (Mr. R. Bremridge), and among those present were Messrs. W. L. Howie, F. A. Rogers, F. W. Gamble, E. White, J. R. Wretts, F. Ransom, E. T. Brewis, E. F. Harrison, P. E. F. Perredes, H. Finmore, J. Stuart Hills, J. W. Bowen, R. A. Bennett, and W. F. Gulliver.

The first paper was by Miss NORA RENOUF, Salters' Research Fellow, on

THE CONSTITUTION OF DIHYDROLAURELENE AND DIHYDROISOLAURELENE.

The question has a remote interest to pharmacy, as it refers to the synthesis of camphor. The research seems to have been the outcome of an assertion by Zelinsky that dihydrolaurelene and dihydroisolaurelene are identical with 1,1 dimethylhexahydrobenzene. Miss Renouf has disproved this statement by working out the constitutional formulæ. An interesting point about these hydrocarbons is that 1,1 dimethylhexahydrobenzene has a geranium odour, the other two having a camphoraceous smell. The boiling-points of the liquids exhibit small differences. Miss Renouf explained these matters in a manner that showed a thorough acquaintance with the subject.

There was no discussion on the paper, but Dr. A. W. CROSSLEY, who has been concerned in the research, spoke of the difficulties which have had to be faced in the course of the investigation.

A vote of thanks was given to Miss Renouf.

CONCENTRATED INFUSIONS.

The next paper was by MESSRS. E. H. FARR and Robert Wright, on "The Preparation of Concentrated Infusions." Mr. FARR, who read the paper, said that, in common with many other pharmacists, the authors shared a prejudice against concentrated infusions. The distrust is justified on account of the difficulty of reproducing the properties of the infusion in a concentrated solution. Taking the question of taste, for instance, little difficulty was found with chiretta and quassia preparations, but in other cases the proper blending of the different principles taken out by water in various proportions is not easy. This "compound taste" the authors likened to the difficulty of making a flesh-coloured ointment, which cannot be done by mixing pink and white, but needs a trace of brown colouring-matter. Buchu owes its medicinal value to two principles—essential oil and mucilage; but it happens that a process suitable for the extraction of one of these bodies is unsuitable for obtaining the proper proportion of the other. It has, however, been possible in most cases to produce a concentrated preparation which on dilution represents the official infusion. Next reference was made to the question of extractive in infusions, and an examination of published results exhibited a wide variation, which led the authors to prepare a fresh set. The fresh infusions were evaporated to dryness on a water-bath, and the amount of extractive multiplied by eight was taken as the standard in preparing the concentrated infusions. Points kept in view were only to include in the concentrated preparations such principles as are soluble in water, to exhaust the drug as completely as possible, and only to use alcohol as a preservative. To the last rule exception was made in the case of such infusions as orange, gentian, and cascarrilla, where small proportions of tincture are added to improve the flavour. Distilled water, to which chloroform has been added in small quantity (1-1,000), was the aqueous menstruum used, the chloroform being used to prevent fermentative changes. The amount employed is so small that it cannot be recognised in the concentrated infusion. Two general methods were devised for exhausting the drugs. The first a process of macero-expression, the second re-percolation. In the macero-expression method the solid ingredients are mace-

rated in 15 oz. of menstruum in a covered earthenware vessel for twenty-four hours, strained, and pressed, the alcohol or fortifying tincture being added at this stage. The maceration is repeated two or three times, the time allowed being six hours. The product of the second and third macerations are evaporated and added to the first solution, the whole made up to a pint, and set aside to clarify. In the re-percolation process half the ingredients are moistened with sufficient menstruum to form a damp powder, allowed to stand for two hours, packed in the percolator, and slowly percolated. The second half of the ingredients is moistened, and percolated with the first product, percolation being continued to exhaustion, the weaker liquids evaporated, and added to the stronger solutions. The bulk is made up to one pint, and set aside to clarify. By these methods the authors have prepared concentrated infusions representing all the official ones except acid infusion of cinchona, which cannot be made in a concentrated form. Chamomile and valerian infusions being often required were included in the investigation. Samples of the concentrated preparations have been kept for periods varying from nine to six months, and have not altered. One sample—that of gentian—was made in 1901, and has kept well since. The macero-expression process is not so convenient as the re-percolation method, so that wherever possible preference has been given to the latter. The following are the notes made by the lecturers on each infusion:

Chamomile.—The whole flowers cannot be exhausted by an aqueous menstruum, but must be re-percolated with dilute alcohol, adding at the end 1 drop of oil of chamomile for each ounce of flowers used.

Orange Peel.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water and add tincture of orange 1 oz. to each pint of concentrated product.

Compound Orange Peel.—Macero-expression with chloroformic water, adding 1 oz. each of tinctures of orange and lemon.

Buchu.—Macero-expression process with dilute alcohol and fortify with 1 oz. of tincture of buchu to each pint. The diluted product does not equal the fresh infusion.

Columba.—Macero-expression with chloroformic water, the final product to be heated to 85° C. and kept at that temperature for five minutes.

Clove.—Macerate with dilute alcohol and follow by percolation. The product is not satisfactory.

Cascarrilla.—Macero-expression with chloroformic water and fortify with 6 drachms of tincture of cascarrilla to each pint. The diluted product is quite equal to the official infusion.

Chiretta.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water yields a satisfactory result.

Cusparia.—Macero-expression with chloroformic water gives a good product.

Digitalis.—Macero-expression with chloroformic water. Similar to the B.P.C. method, and satisfactory.

Compound Gentian.—Macero-expression with chloroformic water, adding 2 drachms each of tinctures of orange and lemon to the pint of product.

Rhatany.—Macero-expression with chloroformic water. Exhaustion with dilute alcohol gives more extractive, but the product does not resemble the official infusion.

Hops.—Macero-expression with dilute alcohol. Old hops give a better result than new hops; the extractive is higher and the product clearer. The B.P. should state which are to be used.

Quassia.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water. The product is opalescent at first, but clears after a time.

Rhubarb.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water.

Roses.—Percolate with acidulated dilute alcohol. The concentrated liquid, when diluted, is inferior to the fresh infusion, but its tinctorial power is as high. It deposits on keeping.

Broom.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water. Deposits on keeping and is not satisfactory.

Senno.—Macero-expression with dilute alcohol and fortify by adding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. essence of ginger to each pint. The product is equal to the fresh infusion.

Senega.—Re-percolation with dilute alcohol to which a little ammonia has been added. A small proportion of oil of wintergreen to be mixed with the product.

Serpentary.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water satisfactory.

Boorberry.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water.

Valerian.—Re-percolation with chloroformic water to which

a little ammonia has been added. The product is superior to the fresh infusion.

The authors again referred to the variation shown by authorities as to the extractive in infusions, and pointed out that there is considerable deposit caused by adding the alcohol to the concentrated infusion. Against this was mentioned the fact that fresh infusions become cloudy on keeping twelve hours. The general opinion was expressed that, although there were a few failures, the concentrated infusions as a rule represent the drugs from which they are prepared.

DISCUSSION.

The PRESIDENT had been brought up to use fresh infusions, but there are cases—where a patient is going abroad, for instance—when concentrated infusions might be of value. He (the speaker) would like to know whether the physician would object to the use of the concentrated liquors.

Mr. HARRISON, referring to the difference in the extractive figures of various workers for senna and rhubarb, asked whether the authors had prepared the standard infusion and the concentrated liquid from the same drug. Mr. Harrison also inquired if the precipitate thrown down on adding alcohol is active or inactive, and whether the authors have investigated the official concentrated liquors which are devised for making infusions.

Mr. WHITE admired the way the authors had avoided laying down cast-iron rules, such as are reflected in the case of the concentrated liquors of the Pharmacopœia. The formulæ referred to look nice, and are easy for students to learn, but they do not represent the infusions. He raised the question as to whether the concentrated infusions would keep unless they were sterilised. The use of the dilute chloroform-water is good, as it prevents spoiling of the aroma from fermentative changes. Mr. White asked if the authors had tried using benzoic acid as a preservative of infusions; the particular organisms which cause mould in infusions are susceptible to benzoic acid. He considered aroma, taste, and colour as of more importance than extractive, and that the physician's opinion could be neglected as long as the appearance and taste is the same as the fresh infusion.

Mr. DEANE suggested that the low extractive of the senna and rhubarb preparations is due to the method of extraction. He inquired as to what proportion of alcohol is necessary for preservation; the quantity generally employed is 20 per cent., but a smaller amount would probably be sufficient.

Professor GREENISH could not understand why the extractive figures for the standard infusions multiplied by eight are higher than the concentrated infusions prepared by superior exhausting methods; he would have expected the reverse. In the case of senna, rhubarb, and buchu, where differences are shown it is probably due to the fact that the large quantity of mucilage in solution is thrown out on adding alcohol. In the case of foxglove infusion the physician would probably not be satisfied simply with appearance and taste; the preparation would need to show activity.

Professor CROSSLEY said the pharmacist should not say that the medical man would not know the difference. The doctor trusts the pharmacist, and would be satisfied if assured that a preparation is good.

Mr. WOOLCOCK said it was quite an ordinary thing for the doctor to say, "Is your digitalis freshly made?"

Mr. W. H. ALLEN put this poser to Mr. Farr: "Given the option, would you delete the infusions from the Pharmacopœia, and put the concentrated preparations in their place?" Mr. Allen also said that concentrated infusions seem unnecessary, as it is easy to prepare infusions in quantity, and store them under sterile conditions.

Mr. E. M. HOLMES inquired whether Mr. Farr referred to first or second year or green hops.

Mr. WATMOUGH said it was important not only that digitalis infusion should be freshly made, but that the digitalis should be fresh. Pharmacists ought to stick to fresh infusions, unless some advantage could be shown with the concentrated preparations.

Mr. FARR, in reply, said the rhubarb and senna preparations were found to be quite as active as the fresh infusions. The concentrated liquors of the Pharmacopœia are not popular; he had rarely seen them ordered. Whether this

is owing to the name or to the liquors being arranged on the decimal system he could not say. To prevent changes on keeping he thought it desirable to raise the temperature of the infusions, and maintain them for some time below boiling-point before adding the alcohol. In some cases it is absolutely necessary. He had not tried benzoic acid as a preservative, but in a somewhat similar case cinamic acid failed to inhibit mould. The actual amount of chloroform present in the finished product is infinitesimal, as much of it seems to be absorbed by the drug. The concentrated infusion does not possess a chloroform flavour. The proportion of alcohol for preservative purposes varies; 20 per cent. is sufficient for England, but for export 25 per cent. is needed. The mucilaginous bodies thrown out by the alcohol accounts for the lower figures for extractive shown by the concentrated infusions. The foxglove formula is practically that of the B.P.C., which has been found satisfactory. He had never used concentrated infusion of foxglove; he not only used fresh infusion, but gathered his own leaves. In regard to the attitude of medical men towards concentrated infusions, doctors' surgeries, where the larger proportion of dispensing in this country is done, use concentrated infusions. As to Mr. Allen's question, his reply was that concentrated infusions will be largely used and required, whether they are in the B.P. or not, therefore pharmacists should be prepared to supply as good a preparation as possible. He had noticed that in the first three or four months after hops have been dried they have a pleasant aroma, but this becomes disagreeable after six or eight months.

A vote of thanks having been given to Mr. Farr, Mr. T. E. Wallis was called upon to read his paper on

THE ESTIMATION OF CHLORAL HYDRATE.

Mr. WALLIS reviewed the processes of assaying chloral hydrate, including the official method, and, having found them all unsatisfactory, devised a method in which the chloroform molecule is broken up and the chloride titrated with silver nitrate. The chloral hydrate is dissolved in a weighed quantity of alcohol, and aqueous solution of sodium hydrate added; the mixture is put in a soda-water bottle, the cork of which is then tied down, the bottle wrapped in a duster, and heated in a water-bath for three hours. The quantity of alcohol must be adjusted so as to be 50 per cent. of the volume of the liquid. The excess of alkali is re-titrated with sulphuric acid, and the chloride titrated with N/10 silver nitrate. There is a discrepancy between the alkaline and silver titrations which is explained by the action of the alkali on the glass of the bottle; otherwise the results are concordant.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. HARRISON took exception to the criticism of the modified B.P. method of assaying chloral hydrate. Mr. Wallis had said the process is all right if the chloral hydrate is very nearly pure. With 90 to 100 per cent. chloral, the B.P. process is all that could be wished, and it takes less time than the method proposed by Mr. Wallis.

Mr. WATMOUGH had found the variation in the B.P. process, due to different temperatures, negligible. He had tried the soda-water method, and the bottle burst.

Dr. CROSSLEY said that must have been due to a bad bottle, as soda-water bottles are largely employed for heating under pressure, and never burst.

Mr. WALLIS, replying, said his process was better than the B.P. method, as a larger quantity of test-solution was needed, and the error was thus reduced.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Wallis, and an adjournment made to the examination-hall, where refreshments were provided.

VIENNA EXHIBITION OF HYGIENE.—The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that a general Exhibition of Hygiene will be held at Vienna from May 12 to July 15, 1906.

THE total imports of druggists' sundries, chemicals, and colouring-materials into Switzerland in 1904 amounted to 1,715,800*l.* (an increase of 68,800*l.* on the imports of 1903), of which 1,583,900*l.* was for manufactured chemical-products. The increase was principally in drugs, spirits of wine, anthracene, sulphate of iron, copper and zinc, and sulphuric ether. The total imports from the United Kingdom amounted to 66,700*l.*

Winter Session of Chemists' Local Associations.

The Business Done.

Newcastle.—Lantern evening.

C. & D. Society.—Arrangements for reunion.

Grimsby.—Prices of tabloids.

Bath.—Prices of tabloids and uniformity in the sale of poisons.

Mr. Norris recommended entering Easton's syrup in the prescription-book instead of the poison-book.

Brighton Junior.—Literary contribution from Mr. Ashton on "Mark Twain."

Huddersfield.—Mr. Walshaw drew lessons from the General Election regarding organisation.

Liverpool.—Exhibition of curios, note on oxymel of squills by Mr. Abraham in continuation of his previous paper, dispensing-problems by Mr. Wokes, and pulvis duodenalis by Mr. Marsden.

London.—Arrangements for the annual meeting and P.A.T.A. matters.

C. A. A.—Anæsthetics.

North Staffs.—Tabloid prices and future pharmacy legislation.

Sheffield.—More about amber glass and the preservation of drugs.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Wednesday evening, February 14, in the Hôtel Métropole, Newcastle-on-Tyne. An exhibition of lantern-slides by lime-light was given. A unique collection of slides showing the orchid was described by Mr. Chapman, orchid specialist to Mr. Cookson, of Oakwood, Wylam-on-Tyne. A miscellaneous lot was afterwards shown. A circular from the Eastbourne Chemists' Association *re* B. W. & Co. prices was also dealt with.

Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

THE committee of this Society met at 11 Waring Street, Belfast, on February 13, Mr. W. Jamison, M.C.P.S.I., in the chair.

NEW MEMBERS.—Mr. W. McMullan (Messrs. T. McMullan & Co.) and Mr. J. H. Haslett (Messrs. J. J. Haslett) were elected members.

The draft of the Hon. Secretary's and Hon. Treasurer's reports were considered and adopted, as were also the proposed alteration of rules.

Mr. Frackelton reported as to the furnishing of the rooms, the *matéria medica* specimens, and the library. His reports were approved of.

The annual social is to be held in the new rooms on February 22, the Committee foreshadowing a successful evening.

Grimsby Chemists' Association.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at the Oberon Hotel, Grimsby, on Monday, February 12, Mr. C. Willson (Vice-President) in the chair.

Correspondence read included letters about the revised prices of Foods, Ltd., the Fairchild Scholarships and Prizes, and the Federation and Eastbourne Association *re* B. W. & Co.'s prices. On the last subject it was resolved

That this Association considers Burroughs, Wellcome & Co.'s system of protection ineffectual, and, considering the nature of their goods, that their rate of profit is too small, especially to the chemist who buys through his wholesale house, and strongly urges them to join the P.A.T.A. and protect the goods at a larger percentage of profit.

It was decided to hold the annual meeting on March 15. The evening was afterwards spent in discussing local trade topics.

Bath Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held at the Technical Schools on Thursday, February 8, Mr. E. W. Loveless in the chair.

B. W. & Co. PRICES.—This matter was well discussed and the feeling of the meeting was that the present prices are far too low for this particular class of goods, and that

33½ per cent. should be the minimum profit, considering that a large proportion of the goods are dispensed. Mr. Partington proposed that the following resolution be sent to the firm :

That this meeting of the Bath Pharmaceutical Association expresses its disapproval of the action of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. in refusing to join the P.A.T.A., and considers their system of protection ineffectual.

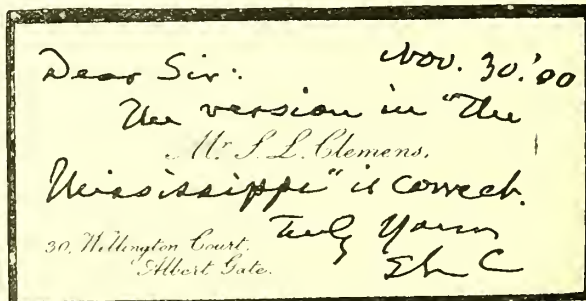
This was agreed to unanimously.

EXCHANGE SYSTEM.—Mr. A. C. Cooper described a means of transferring unsaleable stock which chemists accumulated, to those who could readily dispose of it.

UNIFORMITY IN THE SALE OF POISONS.—Mr. H. Norris opened a discussion on this subject. In regard to selling medicinal preparations like Fellows' and Easton's syrups, containing small proportions of scheduled poisons, he recommended, from high authority, that they be treated as prescriptions, and entered in the prescription-book, this procedure overcoming the technical legal difficulty. He maintained that it is making the poison-book "too cheap," and defeating its real aim, to ask persons accustomed to take these medicines to sign the poison-book. He urged a further strengthening of the Poisons Act to prevent oil-shops and others from selling dangerous liquids in any bottle the customer likes to present. In regard to the drug habit, he advised chemists not to encourage the sale of large quantities of drugs such as cocaine, laudanum, etc., and strongly condemned the supplying of these through the post. Messrs. Partington, Evans, Loveless, Cooper, Sampson, Olds, Howes, Jenkins, and Bush took part in the discussion.

Brighton Junior Pharmacy Club.

AT the monthly meeting of this club held on Monday, February 12, Mr. C. S. Ashton read a paper on "Mark Twain." The President, Mr. Shilton, occupied the chair, and a good number of members were present, besides several visitors from the senior association. Mr. Ashton introduced the subject by a brief discussion on the qualities of Mark Twain's humour. After dealing fully with his writings Mr. Ashton sketched the salient points of Samuel Langhorne Clemens's career, and illustrated his paper by a number of readings from the genial humorist's works, including "Life on the Mississippi," "Tom Sawyer," "Huckleberry Finn," "Roughing It," etc. In the first of these books Mark Twain gives the true account of the circumstances in which he came to adopt his *nom de plume*, an account which differs from that usually given in biographies of the author. Mr. Ashton obtained Mr.



Clemens's confirmation on the visiting card which we reproduce above.

A vote of thanks was proposed and carried unanimously, the President, Mr. Shilton, gracefully tendering the acknowledgment and appreciation of the club to Mr. Ashton for his interesting lecture and for his trouble in coming amongst them that evening. After partaking of refreshments and social chat the meeting dispersed.

Huddersfield Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Queen Hotel, Huddersfield, on Tuesday, February 13, the President (Mr. Walshaw) in the chair.

B. W. & Co. PRICES.—It was agreed to support the action of the Eastbourne and London Associations in this matter.

SOCIAL.—Mr. Henry Sykes was deputed to attend the Dewsbury Association's dinner on March 1, and details of the whist-drive on February 28 were arranged.

LESSONS FROM THE GENERAL ELECTION.—This was the subject of an address by the President, who spoke about the organisation of parties, and culled three lessons from the results—viz.:

(1) Divided counsels and defective organisation can disintegrate any body; (2) only by organisation and good leadership can power be gained; and (3) any class, however weak, may, by strenuous work and unselfish devotion to general interests, achieve success.

The chemists and druggists of the country very much resemble, he said, the Labour party. Ten years ago both were practically without organisation. Now chemists and traders are organised over the country, and these organisations are increasing in number and constantly acquiring greater influence. What concerned them most was what use they were going to make of their more perfect organisation. Was apathy and indifference going to crush and nullify what had been already done? They had been placed in a position of trust as public servants, and they had a right to ask that every one who shall carry on their business shall do so under the same restrictions which were imposed upon them, and also that no person or combination shall use titles when they had not personally earned them. The whole efforts of their organisations should be directed towards the amending of the Pharmacy Acts, so that the public shall know that when it enters any shop selling drugs or kindred articles, it is in charge of an educated and competent man, trained in the full knowledge of everything he handles. Mr. Walshaw was heartily thanked for his address.

Liverpool Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Thursday evening, February 8, at the Royal Institution, the President (Mr. Prosper H. Marsden, F.C.S.) being in the chair.

Mr. D. A. Nightingale was elected a member.

PHARMACEUTICAL CURIOS AND DISPENSING-COUNTER APPARATUS.

Mr. T. F. Abraham exhibited two or three old prescription-books, which dated back about sixty-four years. A remarkable point, he said, was that the prescriptions would appear quite appropriate if they were in force to-day. He noticed that special makers' names were not used, but Pharmacopœial preparations were exclusively ordered.

Mr. Harold Wyatt showed an old Spanish mortar and pestle used in a convent in making up simple preparations. The pestle was very hard bronze, and different from the mortar. Mr. Wyatt also showed a small evaporating-dish, very handy for the counter; Palethorpe's pill-coater; a capsule-filler for ordinary hard capsules; compressor dosier for compressing cachets and for finishing off; also one of a larger size. Mr. Wyatt then exhibited a prescription which had been sent to him by a friend in France.

Mr. Harry Martin exhibited a specimen of fungoid growth, which had been kindly lent by Mr. E. M. Holmes; also two prints of a curious formation of mandrake-root. He also showed two old telephone-receivers of the first type and other articles.

Mr. J. Shacklady exhibited an old prescription-book, and Mr. R. Stockdale a "London Pharmacopœia," first edition, which was in a very good state of preservation.

Mr. E. Thompson showed two books on *materia medica*, with illustrations by Dr. Barton, U.S.A., dated 1825; also four volumes by Dr. Woodville, 1792. The plates in each were in a very good state of preservation.

Mr. A. Buck showed the tubing from one of Dr. Higginson's original enemas, and gave some reminiscences.

The President's collection brought a most interesting exhibition to a close.

OXYMEL SCILLÆ.

Mr. Abraham, in this further note, mentioned that 50 grains of dried squill, on exposure in a damp place,

increased in weight to 66.9 grains, a fact which emphasises the need for using the drug in No. 20 powder, as this is an indication that it is practically dry. He also stated that he uses Chilian or Jamaica honey, and commented upon a few criticisms which have been passed on his previous paper. Incidentally, he remarked:

It is not easy to take the specific gravity of honey accurately, owing to the difficulty of removing air-bubbles, and hence it is not unlikely that many of the figures given are low. The most accurate method which I have found is to mix a given measure of water with the same measure of honey, and after the bubbles and froth have risen, to make up the volume with as much more honey as may be required to produce twice the volume of the water originally taken. After thorough mixing and standing the clear liquid from below may be drawn off in a separating-funnel and the specific gravity calculated by doubling and deducting 1.000. A sample of English honey examined a few days since had a specific gravity of 1.433, and I have previously noted for foreign samples 1.440 and 1.450, all, however, for strained honey.

SOME DISPENSING PROBLEMS.

Mr. T. S. Wokes submitted the following prescriptions:

(1)	(4)
Syr. ferri iodidi ... ʒj.	Magnes. sulph. ... ʒiiss.
Sodii phosphat. ... ʒiij.	Ferri sulph. ... gr. x.
Glycerini ... ʒij.	Quinina sulph. ... ʒss.
Aquam ad ... ʒiij.	Acid. sulph. dil. ... ʒij.
	Aromatic. cascara ... ʒvj.
	Aq. chloroform. ad ... ʒviij.

A dense precipitate of ferrous phosphate is formed.

(2)	(5)
Liq. strych. hydrochlor. ʒj.	Quin. sulph. ... ʒss.
Spt. chloroform. ... ʒiiss.	Ac. hydrobrom. dil. ... ʒij.
Syr. pruni virg. ... ʒss.	Liq. arsen. hydrochlor. mix.
Aquam ad ... ʒvj.	Aromat. cascara ... ʒiiss.
	Aq. menth. pip. ad ... ʒvj.

Some syrups cause a dense precipitate [$\frac{1}{2}$ of strychnine], others do not. These mixtures gave a semi-crystalline black precipitate, which was due to the liquorice contained in the proprietary medicine ordered.

(3)	(5)
Calcii chloridi ... ʒij.	Sol. adrenalin. chlor.
Tr. ferri perchlor. ... ʒiiss.	(1: 1000) ... ʒj.
Magnes. sulph. ... ʒss.	Calcii chloridi ... ʒij.
Glycerini ... ʒss.	Acid. hydrochlor. dil. ... ʒiiss.
Aq. chloroform. ad ... ʒviij.	Syr. zingib. ... ʒss.
	Aquam ad ... ʒvj.

On standing some time precipitates.

Upon adding adrenalin to solution of calcium chloride a pink colour was developed.

DISCUSSION.

No. 1.—Mr. Wyatt suggested adding a little acid to prevent the precipitation, of course after consulting the prescriber.

No. 2.—The President said this mixture would be rather dangerous, due to the precipitation of the strychnine by the tannin in the syrup, and he mentioned a death which had recently occurred owing to this.—Mr. T. F. Abraham did not agree with this as the amount of spt. chlorof. was so small that it would not be likely to separate. The syr. pruni virg. might have something to do with it.—Mr. Wyatt practically agreed.

No. 4.—The President said this precipitation was due to the glycyrrhizin thrown out of the aromatic cascara.—Mr. Wyatt said that magnesium sulphate would throw out glycyrrhizin from ext. glycyrrh., but in this case he thought the ferri sulph. is the cause.

Mr. Wokes noticed that syrup of codeine made according to the present B.P. does not keep very well. He suggested that syrup of tolu should be used in making it, which would improve it and increase its value as a cough-remedy.

PULVIS DUODENALIS.

Mr. Marsden read a note on this, which is a result of Bayliss and Starling's work on the influence exercised by "secretin" upon the pancreas. The author has attempted to make a preparation from the duodenum which will keep longer than solution, and submitted a sample made by cleansing the upper portion of the fresh duodenum of the pig, scraping the mucous membrane from it, and drying at a temperature of from 70° to 80° C. in a water oven, upon glass plates. If spread evenly it scales much like pepsin.

The drying is continued until the material can be easily detached. Three parts of this are mixed with one of calcium phosphate, and the powder passed through a No. 60 sieve. The powder should be kept in well-corked bottles, and should retain its properties for some time. The powder has yet to be tried, but the author pointed out that the temperature employed does not destroy the activity of the article.

London Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of the General Purposes Committee of this Association was held at St. Bride Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., on February 14, Mr. F. W. Truman, Chairman of Committee, presiding. There were present besides Messrs. C. J. Palmer, T. H. Powell, G. P. Pond, A. Pellew, R. Willson, W. J. Campbell, and R. B. Betty (Hon. Secretary). The business was mainly a series of resolutions to be submitted to the next general meeting for confirmation. It was agreed to advise that a sum of 5*l.* 5*s.* be voted to the Benevolent Fund. Correspondence between the Secretary and Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. regarding the placing of tabloid preparations on the P.A.T.A. list was read, but consideration of the matter was deferred, as it was stated that the P.A.T.A. were taking proceedings in the matter. A letter was read from the Public Dispensers' Association, urging co-operation in an organised movement to obtain increased status for registered chemists in public institutions. With regard to the question of dispensing for hospitals—a subject on which Mr. Betty read a paper last session—a sub-committee had been appointed to deal with the subject, and they submitted the following recommendation in regard to the matter, which will be brought before the next general meeting:

Seeing that the proportion of the population attending the hospitals as "out-patients" has greatly increased in the last few years, and that the time spent in waiting for medicines at the hospitals by poor patients is frequently so great that the benefit from a pecuniary point of view is neutralised by the loss of time, the London Chemists' Association would ask the Pharmaceutical Council, as the representatives of the chemists, to approach the Medico-Political Committee of the General Medical Council, to endeavour to make arrangements by which, when desired, prescriptions might be given to out-patients to be dispensed by those chemists who would be willing to prepare and to sell them at a small cost. This would be to the pecuniary advantage of the hospitals and a convenience and economy of time to many of the patients. The great increase of out-patients, together with the increase of individual prosperity, suggests that many are availing themselves of these charities who can well afford to pay. Hence the medical practitioner is deprived of his legitimate fees and the chemist of the profits of his calling.

The Hon. Secretary then read an advertisement, headed "Pharmacists and the Public," which appeared in a recent issue of a London morning paper, but it was agreed to take no notice of the aspersions on pharmacists it contained. The resolution passed at the instance of Mr. Powell at a meeting of the South London branch of the Association in April last, urging that circulars be issued directing public attention to P.A.T.A. prices for proprietaries, was then discussed. The P.A.T.A. had been written to on the subject, and the P.A.T.A. Secretary had asked that consideration of the question should be left over until January of this year. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write again to the P.A.T.A. to ask what had been done. A letter was read from Mr. T. H. W. Idris, M.P., saying that he would be glad to attend a meeting of the Association at an early date to discuss legislative proposals. A letter relating to the Fairchild Scholarships was referred to, and it was agreed that a new book of rules be prepared by Messrs. Pond and Betty and submitted to the March meeting. The date of this meeting is to be arranged to suit the convenience of Mr. H. Wippell Gadd, who is to speak on "Parliamentary Representation." The resolutions passed at the Federation meeting at Brighton regarding breaking bulk and the question of the abolition or amendment of the Medicine-stamp Acts were brought forward, but no action was taken. The advisability or otherwise of having a "Parliamentary dinner" was next brought forward, but it was unanimously agreed that in the present financial condition of the Association the matter had better be deferred.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A MEETING was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on February 8. Mr. A. C. G. Paterson (the President) was in the chair. Sixteen of the members were present. Mr. J. Clark, Ph.C. (Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), read a paper, telling

THE STORY OF ANÆSTHESIA,

the means adopted whereby a patient is brought very near to death by the abolition of all the functions except those of respiration and circulation, thus rendering him insensible to pain during surgical operations. It is fairly well agreed that gaseous anæsthetics, like nitrous oxide, are conveyed by the blood-corpuscles to and from the nervous tissues, which are thus acted upon directly. The alcoholic narcotics—chloroform, ether, etc.—have similar action with certain differences, due, in some cases, to the haloid constituent, which renders them less soluble in the blood and more poisonous to protoplasm. The ancient history of anæsthesia commences with the nepenthe of Helen of Troy, the composition of which is unknown. Dioscorides in the second century used a wine of the root of mandragora to produce unconsciousness. Coming to more recent times, hyp-pillows, mesmerism, and rapid breathing were disposed of. Humphry Davy first noticed in 1799 that laughing-gas produced something more than exhilaration, but it was not until 1844 that Horace Wells, a Connecticut dentist, used nitrous oxide in the extraction of teeth. The discovery of the anæsthetic property of ether is generally conceded to Dr. Morton, of Boston, although another American doctor, King, of Jefferson, had used ether as an anæsthetic as early as 1842, but he does not seem to have made any attempt to extend its use. In 1847 Sir J. Y. Simpson made the greater discovery of chloroform, and Mr. Clark told all about it. He also dealt with the ease for and against the use of chloroform and ether in modern practice. Although the deaths under ether are only 1 : 6,000, against 1 : 2,000 under chloroform, the latter is the drug preferred by most medical men for anæsthetising on account of the ease and convenience, both to the patient and the doctor, of its administration. Brief reference to A.C.E. mixture, ethyl chloride, and the local anæsthetics brought to a close an interesting and comprehensive paper.

North Staffs Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on Thursday evening, February 8, Mr. J. Averill, J.P. (Stafford), President, in the chair.

B. W. & CO. PRICES.—Mr. H. Wippell Gadd wrote calling attention to this matter.

Mr. Weston Poole contended that it was of no use to pass such a resolution as the London Chemists' Association had done on this matter. The directors of Burroughs Wellcome & Co. would think them very unbusinesslike if they did. That firm advertised so largely that they could practically compel chemists to take stuff at their (the firm's) own prices.

Mr. Edmund Jones said they were not going to fight Burroughs Wellcome & Co., or they would get their backs up. He moved the following resolution:

That the North Staffs Chemists' Association regrets that Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. have not seen their way to adopt some system which would provide for the trade generally a more uniform and satisfactory profit, and they hope that Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. will give further and more equitable consideration to the matter, and that mutual satisfaction and benefit may result.

FUTURE PHARMACY LEGISLATION.—The President opened a discussion on this subject, referring at the outset to the judgment in the Rankin's ointment case, which he thought was a very good judgment. The Pharmaceutical Society would now draw up for approval by the Privy Council a schedule of poisons which in their opinion should go into classes Nos. I. and II. He thought that it would enable chemists to know exactly what preparations are in No. I. and what in No. II. The Rankin's ointment case had cleared the ground. He thought that in the new Parliament the Pharmacy Bill would stand a much better chance of becoming law. Mr. Lough is now in the Government, and would not introduce the Pharmacy Bill, but they now had

at least one representative of the profession in the House in the person of Mr. Idris. He had no doubt that Mr. Idris might be induced to take the matter up. They had two or three gentlemen well acquainted with the profession who were barristers—Messrs. Glyn-Jones, Marshall Freeman, and R. Atkinson Robinson—who might render them good service when the time came. He congratulated the President of the Pharmaceutical Society on the success his son had attained. He would like to see the three gentlemen he had mentioned obtain seats in the Commons, as they would be able to clearly represent the chemists' views.

Mr. Edmund Jones rejoiced that Mr. Idris had been returned to the House, but against that fact they had to remember Mr. Alexander Cross had also been returned, and he was a great advocate of the retailing of poisons by seedsmen and ironmongers in country districts. Then there was Alderman Duckworth, who is a director of Boots, Ltd. He (the speaker) thought that the time was almost ripe for direct representation in the House of Commons, such as the teaching profession had. There are 6,000 members of the Pharmaceutical Society, and a levy of 1s. per member per year would produce 300*l.*, which would pay a salary to a representative of the chemists. There would then only be the question of meeting the election expenses. He would like to see a pharmaceutical M.P., paid by chemists, who would champion their cause in the legislative assembly. In conclusion he moved a vote of congratulation to Mr. Idris on his election, which was agreed to.

NEW MEMBERS.—Mr. E. F. Pearson (representing Messrs. J. Thompson, Ltd.) and Mr. J. H. Waldron (Hanley) were balloted for and unanimously elected as members of the Society. The Secretary (Mr. T. Bently) proposed Mr. R. T. Gill (Shelton) as a new member, and he will be balloted for at the next meeting.

B. P. C.

THE Hon. Secretaries of the British Pharmaceutical Conference send us for publication a list of suggested subjects for research by pharmacists and others connected with pharmacy, with the remark that it has been added to. The new subjects are as follows :

ACACIA.—An examination of commercial samples of the powdered gum is required.

ACIDUM CHROMICUM.—A method for the determination of chromic acid suitable for inclusion in the Pharmacopœia.

ALETRIS FARINOSA.—The bitter principle of the rhizome requires investigation. (See P. J. [3], 17, 122, 123).

AMMONII PHOSPHAS.—A rapid method for the assay of this salt.

APOMORPHINE.—Do solutions of salts of this alkaloid retain their potency after colouration has taken place?

AROMATIC WATERS.—A comparison of the quality and keeping properties of aromatic waters prepared by distillation of the drug with those of waters made by solution of the oil.

BELLADONNA, STRAMONIUM, AND HENBANE.—Determination of the distribution of the alkaloid in the lamina, petiole, midrib, small and large stems.

BOUGIES.—A simple machine for making bougies by pressure.

CALX SULPHURATA.—Commercial samples of this should be examined to ascertain the amount of true sulphide generally present.

CANTHARIDES.—Comparison of the published methods for the assay of this drug.

HEMIDESMUS INDICUS.—The extraction and examination of the aromatic body.

IPECACUANHA, LIQUID EXTRACT OF.—Experiments to determine whether the use of lime can be dispensed with in making this are required.

LIQUOR BISMUTH. ET AMMON. CIT.—A comparison of the different methods suggested for the manufacture of this is required.

LITHARGE.—Examination of the litharge of commerce, more especially with a view as to its suitability for pharmaceutical purposes, is required.

OXYMEL SCILLÆ.—What change, if any, takes place when heat is used for making this preparation?

QUILLAIA-BARK.—Experiments to determine the best menstruum for exhausting this bark for the purpose of making emulsifying agents.

SUPPOSITORIES.—A method of emulsifying aqueous liquids with theobroma oil in the preparation of suppositories.

WITCH HAZEL, DISTILLED EXTRACT OF.—The imported article varies much in character and properties. Required, an investigation upon this. (See P. J. [3] 13, 524).

We state for the benefit of those who have the ability but not the cash to undertake research on these subjects that a special fund exists to defray expenses connected with research-work. The Executive Committee of the B.P.C. will be glad to receive applications from members for grants from the fund, and such applications may be addressed to the Hon. Secretaries, B.P.C., 17 Bloomsbury Square.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.

A MEETING was held in the Montgomery Hall on Wednesday, February 14, Mr. H. Antcliffe (senior Vice-President) in the chair. Among those present were Messrs G. Squire, P. Carr, C. S. Richards, F. A. Upsher Smith, A. H. Culverhouse, J. G. Jackson, and J. T. Appleton.

The principal business of the evening was the discussion of Mr. Upsher Smith's paper on the

PRESERVATION OF MEDICINAL AND CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.

Mr. Smith made a few further observations on the subject. In the course of this he said :

I have received a letter from Mr. H. J. Möller, of Copenhagen, member of the Royal Danish Permanent Commission of the (Danish) Pharmacopœia, who has sent me a reprint of his paper in Danish on the relative values of coloured glass for the storage of medicinal preparations. This paper is verbally translated into German in the "Berichte der Deutschen Pharmaceutischen Gesellschaft," 1900, Part 6. The latest Swedish Pharmacopœia (1901) has accepted the results of Mr. Möller's investigations, and generally prescribes the use of black, dark red, dark orange, or dark brownish-yellow glass for the protection of substances from light.

With regard to the general question of protecting substances from the action of light by using such coloured glass as will ward off the chemically active rays of light, the researches of Möller and others have established the necessity for this beyond all doubt. Quite recently M. Berthelot ("Ann. Ch. Phys.," 1905, viii, 6, pages 195-9) has published the results of experiments which have extended over a long term of years.

The author also described an amber-glass container for spt. æther. nitrosi which is here figured, the description of which shows its construction, viz. :

A, glass piston rod; B, cork within glass stopper (C) ground to fit the cylinder (D) of amber glass; E, glass plate to act as piston; F, glass stopper. In using the apparatus the stopper would be turned so as to allow air to pass in, the tap would then be turned and the rod depressed so that the glass plate remains just above the surface of the liquid.

The Chairman, continuing the discussion, produced two solutions of sodium salicylate (1 in 4 and 1 in 40), made with Sheffield tap-water (soft moorland). The weaker solution was darker than the other, though kept under the same conditions. Mr. Antcliffe also referred to solutions of physostigmine salicylate and sulphate, and asked about their coloration.

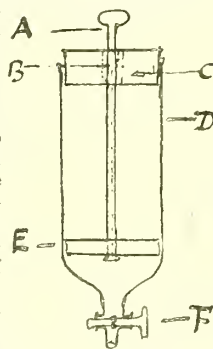
Mr. Percy Carr followed with remarks on the coloration of logwood, and mentioned that Campeachy logwood (which alone, he said, should be used in medicine) is all sent to Australia.

Mr. George Squire did not agree that hydrogen-peroxide solution could be kept well in a bottle closed with a pledget of cotton-wool, and made other observations from practical experience, as also did Mr. Culverhouse, and Mr. Smith replied.

OTHER BUSINESS.

No action was taken on the letter from the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations asking for subscriptions to a Parliamentary Fund, nor in the matter of the resolution of the London Chemists' Association on B. W. & Co. prices.

A note from Mr. Idris was read acknowledging the congratulations of the Society on his election to Parliament, in which he said that he hoped the result would be of service to the craft.



Festivities.

A Guildford Gathering.

A SMOKING-CONCERT in connection with the Guildford and District Chemists' Association was held at the Angel Hotel, Guildford, on February 7. There was a good attendance, Mr. C. J. Childs being in the chair. Among those who contributed to an excellent musical programme were the Chairman, Messrs. Claude Martin, Frank Syrett, C. Gaines, Inman, Kleiser. Gramophone selections were given by Mr. A. E. Moon. The smoker, which was a most enjoyable one, was arranged by Messrs. Childs and Inman, who are members of the committee of the Association.

A Cheshire Supper.

THE first supper in connection with the Altrincham and District Chemists' Association took place at the Axe and Cleaver Hotel, Altrincham, on February 7, with Mr. J. W. Unsworth (President) in the chair. After supper and the loyal toast, the President gave "Success to the Altrincham and District Chemists' Association," which was suitably replied to by Mr. R. H. Tootill (Hon. Treasurer). Later on in the evening Mr. F. L. Evans proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," and Mr. F. H. Rogers (Hale) replied. A most enjoyable evening was spent, Messrs. Fowden, Rogers, and Evans supplying the necessary musical talent.

A Liverpool Dinner.

THE annual dinner of the employés of Messrs. J. Thompson, Ltd., wholesale druggists, Liverpool, took place on February 10 at the Star and Garter Hotel, Liverpool. Mr. N. A. Wood, representative of the company in Lancashire, was in the chair. A special musical programme, arranged by the Secretary, Mr. R. G. Owen, was admirably carried out. "The Prosperity of the Firm" was ably proposed by Mr. E. F. Pearson. The Chairman, in responding, spoke of the changes that had taken place during his sixteen years' connection with the firm. These changes, he said, were for the better, both from a business and a social standpoint. A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

More Card-playing.

THE Executive of the Bradford Chemists' Association have this winter, for the first time, tried the experiment of a whist-drive, and the event took place on Tuesday evening, February 13, at the Royal Hotel. The result was a complete success. About a hundred of the members and their friends were present and twenty-one tables were occupied. The play began about half-past eight and continued, with an interval for supper, until close upon midnight. Mr. Marmaduke Firth acted as director of the drive, and had the satisfaction of knowing that he, and the other officials of the Association who had had the arrangements in hand, had carried out an entire success. The results of the play were as follows: Ladies, first prize, Miss Linsley; second prize, Miss Dunn; booby prize, Mrs. Watson. Gentlemen, first prize, Mr. Legg; second prize, Mr. Gill; booby prize, Mr. Whitworth Rimmington.

A Sheffield Smoker.

THE second annual smoking-concert promoted by the Sheffield Pharmacy Athletic Club was held at the Carlton Restaurant on February 8, when, notwithstanding the wintery weather, the great success of the previous year was repeated. Mr. R. D. Douglas (President) occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. H. G. Williams and Mr. J. G. Jackson (Vice-Presidents), Messrs. G. Squire, F. W. Whitworth, J. S. Oswald, J. T. Appleton, A. Preston, Wetherall, Percy Carr, W. S. Crouch, Crossley Holland, J. Hull, A. Whitehurst, and C. S. Richards (Hon. Secretary). The following gentlemen contributed to the programme: Messrs. Whitehurst, Davis, Thomson, Frost, Gibson, Gardner, Brewster, Hull, and Tozer, all the items being well received. The whole of the talent was provided by the members and their friends, the only professional being the accompanist. Towards the close of the proceedings Mr. J. Hull (Parke, Davis) proposed "The Club," and Mr. J. G. Jackson replied.

"Socialité"

as an antidote to the cares and worries of business was the treatment applied by the Brighton Association of Pharmacy to its members and friends on Thursday evening, February 8, when a whist-drive and dance were successfully carried out. The local chemists and their friends numbered about 100, and enjoyed a very pleasant evening. The progressive whist portion of the programme lasted from 8.30 till 11 p.m., at the end of which there was a break for refreshments and the presentation of prizes by the President (Mr. W. H. Gibson, F.C.S.). The prizes (two for ladies and two for gentlemen) were taken by friends of members. The booby prize, however, remained in the ranks of pharmacy, thanks to Mr. Eustace Gibson's entertaining capacities. To signalise the changing of places at the end of each game a brass pestle and mortar from the "historic house of Savage" was used as a gong. This, we are assured, gave quite a pharmaceutical "tone" to the assemblage. Then they danced up till about 2.30 a.m. The whole of the arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. A. J. Franklin (acting as Hon. Secretary), C. E. Robinson, and G. B. Savage. Among those present were the President (Mr. W. H. Gibson, F.C.S.), the Treasurer (Mr. J. R. Gwatkin), Mr. J. Williamson (Vice-President) and Mrs. Williamson, Mr. C. S. Ashton, Mr. and Mrs. C. Beckwith, Mr. and Mrs. E. Beckwith, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Black, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cook, Mr. Cook, jun., and Miss Cook, Dr. Dorrell, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Franklin, Miss Gibson and Miss J. Gibson, Mr. S. Gibson, Mr. E. Gibson, Mr. H. R. Gwatkin and Miss Gwatkin, Mr. Jagg, Mr. Jackson, Mr. A. and Mr. and Mrs. J. Plowright, Miss Padwick, Mr. Robinson, Mr. G. B. Savage and Miss Savage, etc.

At the Spa.

THE annual dinner of the Harrogate and District Pharmaceutical Association was held at the White Hart Hotel, Harrogate, on February 9, with the President (Mr. R. Hayton Davis, F.C.S.) in the chair. The following were also present: Messrs. G. W. T. Newsholme (Sheffield), G. W. Worfolk (Hkley), F. W. Branson (Leeds), H. G. Dutton (Bradford), E. W. Battle, G. Weston, C. E. J. Eynon, G. Pattison, J. R. Kirk, G. J. R. Parkes, J. W. Hull, J. M. Dawson, C. F. Mate, A. Atkinson, S. C. Halliday, F. T. Leak, H. C. Hines, W. F. Senior, J. W. Harper, A. B. Payton, J. Swinbank, C. B. Southwell, W. Holgate, E. W. Lawrence, A. W. Wood, P. L. Ridge, T. E. Handford, and H. G. Mitchell (Secretaries). The loyal toasts having been honoured, the President in a very terse and able speech proposed that of "The Pharmaceutical Society," and contrasted very vividly the apprenticeship of 1868 and 1906, and questioned if pharmacy is in a better state than in days of yore. Mr. Newsholme, in his reply, said he thought since 1868 pharmacy had made distinct progress scientifically, but, commercially, the rights of pharmacists had been ignored. He also referred to the advantages of his local organisation scheme in the recent General Election. Mr. Geo. Weston in a very spirited speech proposed "Kindred Associations," to which Mr. G. W. Worfolk responded. The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. Battle and Mr. Branson responded. Mr. J. R. Kirk gave the toast of "The Harrogate Association," which was very ably responded to by Mr. T. E. Handford, the Divisional Secretary. During the evening songs were excellently sung by Messrs. Weston, Parkes, Hull, and Mate, while Mr. Hines presided at the piano. The toast of "The President" having been proposed by Mr. H. G. Dutton and responded to, a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Swinbank and Mr. Eynon to "The Entertainers," to which Mr. Parkes responded. A very pleasant and successful evening terminated by a vote of thanks to the Secretary (Mr. H. G. Mitchell).

West Ham Diners.

THE second annual dinner of the West Ham Chemists' Association was held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, E.C., on February 8. The President of the Association (Mr. W. Potter) was in the chair, and he was supported by between fifty and sixty members and their friends. Among those present were Mr. Alderman Bothwell (Mayor of West Ham), Mr. Councillor Sharp, Mr. Walter Hills (Treasurer of the Pharmaceutical Society), and Messrs.

Arnold Baiss, and Boyes (Baiss Bros. & Stevenson), H. C. Wright and Williams (Wright, Layman & Umney), E. Simpson (Idris & Co.), H. W. Butler (Camwal), A. Shirley (Shirley Bros.), C. W. Martin (S. Maw, Son & Sons), and C. J. G. Bunker (Twickenham).

The toast-list began with the drinking of the health of "The King," and then the Chairman read out a long list of apologies for absence, including letters from five members of Parliament and from the President and Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. Glyn-Jones, who was to have been there, was prevented by a cold from going out.

Mr. W. Forbes proposed the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," and Mr. Walter Hills, replying, said, the Pharmaceutical Council tried to do its duty, and although at times mistakes were made, good has resulted. The position of the Pharmacy Bill is better now than in the last three Sessions, there being promises of support from over three hundred members of Parliament. The salient point of the Bill is that an attempt is being made to deal with an anomaly of the Pharmacy Act in that limited companies are exempt from some of the most important provisions. He looked with apprehension to the extension of the limited-liability principle, as individual traders are in danger of being snuffed out; and it is by the latter section of the community that the duties of civic life are performed. It is an anomaly that the registered man should not receive the greatest protection from the legislation of his title. The Pharmacy Bill deals with the question in a practical way, not interfering with limited companies managed by qualified chemists, but prohibiting bogus companies carried on by men who have failed to pass the qualifying examinations, and therefore unfit to keep a chemist's shop. Mr. Hills went on to refer to the help that will be needed from local associations in approaching members of Parliament, and expressed the opinion that West Ham will not be found wanting.

Mr. Arnold Baiss proposed the toast of "The West Ham Chemists' Association," and spoke of the great value of local associations. The West Ham Association he considered to be conducted with great spirit. The Chairman replied, and in his speech reviewed the work that has been done by the Association in the past year. He referred also to the interviews that were arranged with candidates for Parliament in the recent elections. Mr. Masterman, the newly elected member for North West Ham, attended a committee meeting of the Association, and the points of the Pharmacy Bill having been explained to him, he expressed himself favourable to the Bill. The replies from the other candidates were equally encouraging.

At the Chairman's suggestion a collection was made on behalf of the Benevolent Fund, and this was made up to six guineas by the Mayor of West Ham.

Mr. J. H. Matthews then gave the toast of "Kindred Associations," and said that trade jealousy does not exist between chemists who are members of local associations. Mr. C. J. G. Bunker, of the Thames Valley Association, replied, and suggested that the system of associations interchanging ideas might be extended. The last toast was "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Harold Mitchell and replied to by the Mayor of West Ham.

The programme of music which was gone through during the evening was under the direction of Mr. Harold Mitchell. One of the songs—"Bloomsbury"—was composed and sung by Mr. James Hender: the chorus was in this style:

Oh! pharmacy calls vainly for protection,
Protection from the company and store.
Freebooters ruin pharmacy. O Bloomsbury,
When will you, will you, shut that door?

The other contributors to the musical programme were Mr. E. J. Wadson, M. W. S. Thurman, Mr. W. Perry (musical sketches), and Master Leslie Battensby.

PATIENT: "I spoke to the chemist, and he advised me that I should—" **Doctor (interrupting):** "Oh, he gave you some idiotic advice, I suppose?" **Patient:** "He advised me to see you."

APPRECIATED.—A subscriber at Bad Kissingen (216/13), in renewing his subscription, writes: "I like your paper very much, as it brings me so much interesting news."—A home subscriber (215/74) remarks: "Your paper has been of more real service to me than even my apprenticeship."

Improved Paraffin Ointment.

By WILLIAM SWAN, Pharmaceutical Chemist.

PARAFFIN OINTMENT, B.P., has never been held in great esteem because of its hardness and the difficulty of preparing it free from granules, and carbolic ointment, B.P., has been generally condemned because of the rapidity with which it separates. The following base, capable of as wide an application as the present one, if not wider, is suggested as a substitute. The chief test of such a base is its relation to carbolic acid: will it dissolve the acid, and retain it bacteriologically active? The latter part of the question lies chiefly in the province of the bacteriologist, but the great stability of the chemical entities of adeps lanæ would suggest an affirmative answer. The solubility of the acid in the base was confirmed by preparing a solution of adeps lanæ 1 part in liquid paraffin, B.P., 4 parts, and dissolving in it the acid in the proportion of 1 in 25. No separation took place after standing for several weeks. The following is the formula which I suggest for the base:

Unguentum Paraffini.

Wool-fat	...	...	...	2 parts
Hard paraffin	...	...	...	2 parts
Soft paraffin	...	...	...	6 parts

Melt together in a shallow dish, and as the liquid cools triturate constantly, until, when cold, a uniform plastic ointment is produced.

To prepare carbolic ointment it is simply necessary to place the acid in a mortar, sufficiently warmed, and triturate till cold.

Practical Notes and Formulae.

MIST. BISMUTHI CO.

(Fraserburgh Recipe.)

Liq. bismuthi (Schacht)	...	...	...	3ss.
Acid. nitro-hydrochlor. dil.	...	...	...	3ss.
Acid. hydrocyanic. dil.	...	...	...	℥XXX.
Tr. nucis vomicæ	...	...	...	℥XXX.
Tr. aurantii	...	...	...	ʒi.
Inf. calumbæ conc.	...	...	...	ʒi.
Glycerini	...	...	...	3ss.
Aquam ad	...	...	...	ʒiij.

M.

This mixture is well known in the Fraserburgh district as the acid bismuth mixture, introduced by the late Dr. Beddie, a son-in-law of the late Mr. Robert Burnett, chemist, there. It is generally prescribed as mist. bismuthi co. When an alkaline mixture is required the fact is generally specified, and a red preparation such as Hewlett's is given.

VIXOL.

DR. AUFRECHT, of Berlin, in the "Pharm. Ztg." states that he has made an examination of this proprietary, which is used in England as an antiasthmatic, and that it appears to be a fluid extract of lobelia and cascara sagrada, to which is added potassium nitrate.

EAU JAPONAISE.

Cedarwood essence	...	...	...	3v.
Essence of patchouli	...	...	...	3v.
Essence of santalwood	...	...	...	3v.
Essence of verbena	...	...	...	3v.
Essence of retivert	...	...	...	3iiss.
Triple extract of rose	...	...	...	3v.

Mix.

Use essences as given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas." Essence of cedarwood is made 1 of oil in 40 of S.V.R.

BAUME DE MENTHOL COMPOSÉ.

The following formula is from the "Apotheker Zeitung":

Lanolin	...	...	...	45 parts
Yellow wax	...	...	...	15 parts
Menthol	...	...	...	15 parts
Methyl salicylate	...	...	...	10 parts

Warm gently to dissolve and incorporate the 15 parts of water.

Trade Notes.

"PHOTOGRAPHIC GOODS are good stock for chemists," say Hford, Ltd., London, E., who will be glad to send specimens and prices of plates, papers, and films to any of our readers.

MR. JAY MACK, 12 Brunswick Place, Hanley, Staffs, will send a copy of his journal called "The Business Druggist" to any of our readers on receipt of a postcard with name and address.

MESSRS. BARCLAY & SONS, LTD., 95 Farringdon Street, London, E.C., invite our subscribers to apply to them for a copy of their 1906 price-list of patent medicines, druggists' sundries, photographic requisites, etc., which will be mailed free.

MESSRS. DOMEIER & Co., LTD., 20 and 21 Harp Lane, E.C., have been appointed sole agents for the United Kingdom for the well-known firm of Messrs. J. Mero & Boyveau, successor Albert Sittler, Grasse, for the sale of their essential oils, distilled waters, extracts, and pomades.

MESSRS. BURROUGHS WELLCOME & Co. are organising a prize competition for users of Tabloid Metol-Quinol Developer. The prizes, it should be noted, are "for direct prints or enlargements developed with tabloid metol-quinol developer," and do not concern the production of the negative.

CLARKE'S "Pyramid" and "Fairy Lights" and "Pyramid" nursery lamps will be good lines for chemists to sell as long as babies come into the world. We notice that the Company (Cricklewood, London, N.W.) are now giving a special bonus to chemists, who should write to the Company for particulars.

SANTYL (KNOLL) is the name which Messrs. Knoll & Co., 27A St. Mary-at-Hill, London, E.C., give to a salicylic ester of sandalwood oil which they have placed on the market in $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. bottles and capsules (boxes of thirty). Santyl is a remedy for acute gonorrhœa, and is stated not to cause disturbance in the gastro-intestinal tract. The dose is 30 minims or two capsules.

THE "M. D." MARMALADE, made by Messrs. Crosse & Blackwell, Ltd., Soho Square, London, is the one best suited for chemists' retail, because it is specially prepared to the prescription of a medical practitioner, who found in the old marmalade a lurking danger to those prone to certain intestinal troubles. Judicious introduction of an article of this kind (essentially a tonic dietetic) frequently means new and good business.

VINOLIA, LTD., Malden Crescent, London, N.W., have been advertising in the London daily papers this week that on presentation of the coupon (included in the advertisement) to a chemist or store the holder may obtain a Vinolia white bar for 3d. The company ask us to state that they will redeem these coupons at 1d. each, thus securing the full price to the retailer on an article which is making rapid headway, especially as a non-irritating bathroom soap.

THE "ORLWARA" NAIL-BRUSH is steadily growing in popularity. This is the brush made by Mr. H. A. Wanklyn, 17 Manchester Avenue, London, E.C., with fibre or bristle so disposed in the back that it wears all over, but lasts longer than brushes made in the ordinary way. Mr. Wanklyn now gives with the first gross of brushes one dozen free, with the retailer's name printed on the back. This dozen is for advertising purposes—i.e., to give to hotels, clubs, or other good customers, so that they may come again. The experience of a lot of first-class chemists proves that they do. The brushes are made in all qualities, from 3s. 6d. per dozen upwards.

MESSRS. EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB, LTD., send us a copy of their newly revised half-yearly export price-current, an examination of which shows how fully the combined Liverpool and London houses lay themselves out to supply every requirement of the chemist and druggist. The present edition contains over 300 pages, devoted to drugs, chemicals, pharmaceutical preparations, druggists' sundries, surgical appliances, proprietary medicines, and shop-fittings, and the fact that the more important sections are printed on paper of different colours makes reference easy. The druggists' fixtures and shop-fitting section is copiously illustrated

with the latest designs; and in this connection it should be noted that the company estimate for first-class work only.

A NEW TOILET SERIES.—Messrs. Allen & Hanburys Ltd., Bethnal Green, London, E., have some attractive, artistic, and saleable toilet specialities, a few of which



we figure; but besides those shown in the illustrations there are toilet oatmeal and violet powder in $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. and $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. barrels, and violet water-softener in $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. and 1-lb. barrels. These powder specialities are nicely finished off with dark olive-green wrappers, the central part of which is a label



lithographed in colours, with space for the retailer's own name. The series also includes tincture of myrrh and borax, hazel-bloom foam, and a series of lotions. Messrs. Allen & Hanburys will be glad to forward free samples of these, with prices, to any of our subscribers who write to them.

Birth.

FORSYTH.—At Newcastle, Natal, on February 4, the wife of Richard P. Forsyth, chemist and druggist (formerly of Edinburgh), of a son.

Marriages.

BEALBY—BOON.—On February 10, at the Parish Church, Kirton-in-Lindsey, by the Rev. R. H. Charters, M.A., Walter Bealby, of Brook House, North Collingham, Notts, to Alice Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Boon, chemist and druggist, West View House, Kirton-in-Lindsey.

WEBSTER—MASTERTON.—At Brooklyn, New York, on February 7, by the Rev. John MacPherson, Magnus Herd Webster, pharmaceutical chemist (Messrs. McKesson & Robbins), second son of Mr. John Webster, J.P., chemist, Buckie, to Katherine Storrar, eldest daughter of the late John Masterton and Mrs. Masterton, 3 Leopold Place, Edinburgh.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

In the Brown v. Leggett Judgment

the Lord Chief Justice used a few ambiguous expressions which occasioned some uncertainty as to the exact effect of the vermin-killers resolution on the Poisons Schedule. In applying the High Court judgment to the ten cases which had stood over to await it, the Leeds Stipendiary gives it to us, after filtering it through his own legal mind, in perfectly clear solution. Mr. Atkinson's own opinion, arrived at after a most careful hearing, had been reversed by the High Court, so that he was in a position to appreciate any possible doubtfulness if there had been any. He finds none. Vermin-killers as a class, no matter what poison they contain nor how much of it, are at present in Part II. of the Schedule. Mr. Atkinson most wisely directs attention to the perils attendant on that interpretation, and it can hardly be doubted that prompt attention will be given to these by those to whom due power has been entrusted. But it is satisfactory to have the law thus definitely stated; and it is not unsatisfactory that Mr. Leggett has to pay ten more guineas towards this service.

The Reported Pharmaceutical Majority

of 330 to 19 in the House of Commons makes even Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's look insignificant. But how it will wear is another question. It is not necessary to be particularly cynical to be convinced that it is a good deal too good to be relied upon. So, too, is the Glasgow correspondent's assurance of Mr. Alexander Cross's conversion. I hope that gentleman is still reckoned among the hostile 19, for otherwise I should have less faith than ever in the figures. It would be interesting to know how many of the 330 complaisant M.P.s also gave a pleasant but not entirely committal answer to Mr. Boot's circular. But, notwithstanding these obvious reflections, it has to be acknowledged that the Pharmaceutical Society has used its machinery, and that local associations have expended their energy to real good purpose during the recent election. It will be hard if all these educative efforts are to be neutralised in the coming Session by a mere "I object" from Mr. Duckworth or Mr. Batty Langley.

Lord Randolph Churchill

would not have increased his reputation by the new arrangement of the medicine stamp-duty which he contemplated, as set out in detail last week. The editorial suggestion that the proposal may have been a departmental one, and that in that case we shall probably hear of it again, is likely enough. Indeed, it may almost be said that it must have originated in the office, for it is difficult to suppose that a politician who was new to the Exchequer, and to whom the duty on medicines would have been quite foreign, would have worked out such a detailed scheme as the one quoted. On the other hand, there is the observation (which may, however, be only a scintillation of Mr. Winston Churchill's own genius) that the scale then and still in force "presses rather heavily on the 1d. and 2d. boxes, etc., of medicines sold in poor neighbourhoods." No assistant-secretary in Somerset House who had had actual experience of the Medicine-stamp Acts in operation could have passed such a remark as that, though it might have come from a higher and less accurately informed region. It is not unknown, indeed, that when Mr. (now Viscount) Milner became Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue six years after Lord Randolph had drafted his only recently revealed Budget, one of his ideas was to amend the Medi-

cine-stamp Act in the same direction. He, too, had the impression that it was the 1½d. tax on the 1d. box of pills which was the great grievance, and his plan was to exempt pennyworths altogether from the duty.

British Chemical-manufacturers

are not unnaturally reluctant to deprive themselves of the comforting assurance which has been current coin at their discussions for so many years, that they had been beaten in so many departments by the Germans in consequence of the facilities granted to the latter in the use of duty-free alcohol. This theory was badly damaged by the evidence and conclusions of the Industrial Alcohol Committee, whose report was published last year. The Committee were entirely sympathetic, and the Revenue authorities have indicated their willingness to give chemical-manufacturers all that they can reasonably ask in view of the twenty millions a year which the nation derives from the spirit-duties. But their evidence did establish as a matter of historic fact that whatever may have enabled the Germans to beat us so thoroughly on what was our own ground, spirit-concessions contributed little or nothing to that result. In face of this it is curious that so expert an authority as Mr. J. C. Umney, in reopening the subject, should so entirely ignore the Blue-books referred to, especially as he himself contributed to them. To assist his audience to "more clearly comprehend the subject," Mr. Umney takes as his starting-point the discovery of mauve and the foundation of

The Coal-tar Industry

by Dr. W. H. Perkin. So did the Committee, and they had Dr. Perkin bodily before them. Mr. Umney traces the success of German rivalry in this industry to "the trade-fostering Governments of the German States," which early recognised that "for the proper expansion of chemical industry alcohol in its cheapest form plays an important part." In the Committee Dr. Perkin was asked by the Chairman, Sir Henry Primrose:

So far as your experience went, the difficulty of obtaining pure alcohol did not operate to injure the industry?—No.

And, in your opinion, had not a great deal to do with the large transfer of the industry to Germany which subsequently took place?—No; I do not think it had anything to do with it.

Dr. Perkin attributed German success primarily to the defects of our patent laws and to German cleverness in evading them; and, secondly, after they had founded their factories, to the readiness of the manufacturers to avail themselves of scientific aid. In regard to

Pharmaceutical Chemicals,

likewise, spirit facilities have been held to excuse our failure, which, however, it is pleasant to remember, has not been universal. Sir Henry Primrose and Dr. Thorpe therefore went to Germany to ascertain what these special facilities were. They were shown freely over Schering's and Merck's factories, and were given every opportunity to see how the Excise control was carried out. At Merck's factory some three thousand articles are produced. Of these it was estimated by the principals that less than 20 per cent. required any alcohol at all in their manufacture. For the rest, the conditions under which it may be employed are at least as stringent and costly as they would be in an establishment of similar size under the existing law in this country. Moreover, at the time of the visit pure alcohol was 50 per cent. dearer in Germany than in England. It is, in fact, the concentration of the production in very large works which gives the German chemists their present advantage. Mr. Umney himself admitted that the wholesale druggists here might manufacture such things as alkaloids to advantage if they could co-operate; but he did not expect that other druggists would buy of him if he manufactured on his own account. With this in view it is still problematical whether, even with the free supervision which the Excise is willing to give, our manufacturers will be able for a long time to compete with their perfectly equipped and long-organised rivals. Certainly, too, it may be assumed that if that free supervision is found to work as a bounty the German Government will soon go one better in that respect.

DISINFECTANTS.

The "Sanitas" Co., Lim.,

are the exclusive Manufacturers of the
well-known Non-poisonous

"SANITAS" PREPARATIONS.

They also Make and Deal in

"Soldis," "Okol," "Creocide," "Pinos,"

"Kingzett's Patent Sulphur Fumigating Candles,"

"Sulphugators," "Formic Sulphugators," "Formic Air
Purifiers,"

"Formic Fumigators," "Formic Aldehyde"

(40 per cent. Solution, Tablets, and Powder),

Kingzett's Patent Drain Testers, Sheep Dips, Weed Killer

Patent Preserved Peroxide of Hydrogen,

Carbolic Fluids, Powders, and Soaps,

Encalyptus Oil, and Permanganate of Potash.

"Sanitas" Pamphlet and "How to Disinfect" Book sent free.

THE "SANITAS" CO., LTD., LONDON, E.

RANKIN'S OINTMENT.

P.A.T.A., 3d., 6d., and 1s.

The Chemists' Ointment.

The only Effective Ointment.

The Ointment with 30 years' reputation.

IS A PART 2 POISON.

And may NOT be sold by unqualified dealers.

Best terms and advertising matter from

**RANKIN & CO., PHARMACEUTICAL
CHEMISTS,
KILMARNOCK, N.B.**



**NESTLÉ & ANGLO-SWISS CONDENSED MILK CO.,
6 & 8 EASTCHEAP, E.C.**

G. S. MUMFORD, FARRINGTON RD., LONDON, E.C.

No. 1 Finest Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	18/ cwt.	Finest Pure STARCH POWDER	22/ cwt.
No. 2 Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	17/ cwt.	No. 1 Finest Light Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	25/ cwt.
Best Cleaned LINSEED (TEA)	18/ cwt.	EPSOM SALTS, E.S.S. Purified, Clean, and Dry	9/ cwt.
No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/ cwt.	Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes)	18/ cwt.
Finest Compound LIQUORICE POWDER	7 & 10 lb.	Finest Pure TOILET OATMEAL, SPECIAL	32/ cwt.
Finest Pure LIQUORICE JUICE	10 lb.	Finest ARROWROOT	1/ lb.

2 1/2 per cent. Discount if Cash with Order.

* CARRIAGE PAID to Railway Stations within 200 miles of London
(or allowance made for distances beyond) on a total weight of 112 lbs.
and upwards of above articles. Smaller parcels delivered free on rail
London at above prices.

"Eureka"

Weed Killer.
Fumigants.
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Summer Shade.
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Saleable Lines. Good Profit.
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will lead to the conviction of any
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Editorial Comments.

Retailing v. Dispensing.

ONE of the drug-trade topics of the day is the desirability of a uniform practice in the sale of such articles as Easton's and Fellows' syrups, which as preparations containing strychnine are regarded as Part 1 poisons. In this connection, Mr. Norris, of Bath, recommends on "high authority" that the sale of these articles should be treated as dispensing transactions. This advice is presumably based upon Section 17 of the 1868 Act, which states that :

the provisions of this section shall not apply to any article when forming part of the ingredients of any medicine dispensed by a person registered under this Act, provided such medicine be labelled etc. and entered etc. in a book to be kept by the seller for that purpose.

This is an important concession to qualified persons (medical and pharmaceutical), but it is questionable if it applies to sales on demand as distinguished from sales on prescription. The Pharmaceutical Council has the matter under consideration at present, but hesitates to commit itself, for many reasons, and we think this hesitation demands respect. The Act specifies retailing, dispensing, or compounding poisons—apparently three distinct actions. The conditions as to retailing are subject to no exemption, and there is no provision in the Act (saving Section 17) which permits a registered person, of his own free will, to treat the sale of a poison as a dispensing transaction. Obviously, this would open the door wide to an avalanche of possible abuse, for as there are few articles scheduled which are not medicines, the provisions as to labelling and registering of sales might, in the greater part, be ignored, and it is not to the interests either of registered chemists or the public that any step in this direction should be taken without great deliberation. Hence the Pharmaceutical Council refrains from giving such advice as Mr. Norris's "high authority" has done. Considerable legal difficulty intervenes. In the first place, it never has been the practice for registered chemists to treat sales of poisons, whether medicines or not, as anything else than retailing; and if this be correct, there is no alternative in the case of Easton's syrup than to treat sales as the law requires in retailing. Certainly, registered chemists have an exemption in Section 17, and the crucial question is: What does "dispensing" in this connection mean? Not dispensing a physician's prescription; this was settled in *Berry v. Henderson*, where the prescription dispensed was written by the purchaser, who was not a physician, and the matter was debated and adjudicated

on. There is no other decision to assist us; therefore we have to fall back upon the Act, and from this we gather the following points:

The rubrics specify "selling or compounding," thus leaving out the word "dispensing." It may therefore be regarded as included in "compounding."

Section 1 refers to "keeping, dispensing, and selling," thus indicating that "compounding" is equivalent (in the sense of distribution to the public) to "dispensing," and that "dispensing" is not "selling."

Section 3 refers to "the compounding of the prescriptions of duly qualified medical practitioners" as a condition precedent to registration under the Act of those engaged in business before it passed.

Section 4 provides for the examination and registration of assistants who had been "engaged and employed in the dispensing and compounding of prescriptions."

The terms of Section 4 are presumably the same thing as in Section 3, and if so, "dispensing" and "compounding" are synonymous, and have reference to prescriptions; from which it follows that "dispensing" in Section 17 is the same as "dispensing" elsewhere in the Act. As "retailing" is not "dispensing," the chemist's use of the Section 17 exemption can only be in regard to medicines which he supplies—*e.g.*, in counter-prescribing. That is the argument upon which the whole trade has acted. It may be right or wrong; it may be the Legislature meant that when a chemist or doctor sells a medicine which is a poison, for the treatment of the sick (such as laudanum, aconite liniment, atropine eye-drops, or Easton's syrup), it is not to be labelled "Poison" and all that sort of thing, but may be regarded as medicine dispensed, and entered in the prescription-book. Certainly the Legislature has been careful to confine the exemption to persons with qualification—*viz.*, apothecaries, medical practitioners, and persons registered under the Pharmacy Act. Veterinary surgeons do not enjoy it, and the terms of Section 17 clearly exclude limited companies from it—they not being registered under the Act. These otherwise privileged "persons" (in fact or law) must, in dispensing poisons, whether by medical prescription or not, observe all the conditions which are imposed in respect to the retail sale of the poisons. We thus see that some weighty considerations have to be settled before Mr. Norris's advice should be acted upon, and it is better that the trade should wait for the Pharmaceutical Council's pronouncement on the subject.

The Co-operative Problem.

THE Conference on the attitude of Co-operative Societies to price-maintenance, which we were able to report last week, may be taken as indicative of the crisis in this problem, which has been dogging the Proprietary Articles Trade Association for two years or more, and has affected individual retailers in certain parts of the country much longer. The P.A.T.A. has been rather silent about the matter, but it has not been idle, and has had the names of several retail co-operative stores on the stop-list for some time, thus indicating that it regards the co-operative plan of giving checks for dividend on protected articles as a violation of the P.A.T.A. principle. The natural sequence to this is that those who supply the co-operative retailers have in the course of time been warned not to supply the stop-listed co-operative retailers, and as the Co-operative Wholesalers' Society is the biggest and most powerful distributor in that category, the ultimatum has not been accepted without an effort to get behind the P.A.T.A. The big society ignores the latter, and is going straight to manufacturers with a threat to close accounts if the goods are not supplied unconditionally. We should like our readers to recognise what this means. The protection scheme in this, as in other

countries, is the creation of retailers and wholesalers who have influenced manufacturers to co-operate with them in maintaining prices. Latterly the P.A.T.A. has been sailing in comparatively smooth waters because some of the biggest cutters have been loyal to it, or have not refused to accept P.A.T.A. goods from wholesalers or manufacturers on P.A.T.A. terms. Individual retailers have not, in a sense, had a real opportunity of showing whether by sticking together they can maintain the prices of protected articles, and keep up the sales of these articles if supplies of them are denied to those who insist on buying them unconditionally. The co-operative revolt now gives that opportunity. The coming fight is not free from complications. Thus some manufacturers and distributors are strongly of opinion that the co-operative principle is outside the scope of price-protection schemes, because in no other case do they dictate what sellers shall do with the profits. There are legal decisions to the effect that agreement by co-operatives to sell at protected prices is not violated by giving dividend checks. This does not affect the P.A.T.A., because part of its contract is that checks shall not be given with its articles. In so doing the organisation is moved by the fact that in the great manufacturing centres of the Midlands, and northwards to Aberdeen, individual retailers with working-class trade have to compete with co-operative societies, and their sales of protected articles are diminished because co-operatives tell them that they can buy at the same prices from the societies less the dividend. This competition is exactly equal to selling below the protected prices, and individual retailers have so demonstrated their weak position to the P.A.T.A. that it will now be ascertained whether co-operatives or individual retailers are the stronger. It will thus be seen that we get away from the fine issue as to whether co-operative selling violates the price-maintenance principle or not; it has been decided, so far as the P.A.T.A. is concerned, that it does. Nevertheless the question arises, can the fight with the co-operatives be confined to their own districts? There is just a chance that the situation would be saved by this expedient, without influencing prices in unaffected districts, but the fact cannot be overlooked that the expedient savours of temporising in a matter which must be definitely settled for the whole country at some time, and if the trade is not prepared for it now, we do not know when it will be. It is probable that the P.A.T.A. may not go into this fight fully until a meeting has been convened of representatives of the trade from all parts of the country. The money for a matter of this kind is provided chiefly by manufacturers and wholesalers, and the probable trading losses in the first instance will fall upon manufacturers. Any meeting that may be held will be of the three sections, and we expect that retailers will be asked what they can do to assist manufacturers who may agree to sacrifice their accounts with co-operatives. Can retailers make such loss good, and how?

Japanese Iodine.

IN view of the large demand for iodine and iodides, and the keen interest which has been shown in the market since the substantial reduction at the close of last year, it is interesting to know exactly what influence Japan is likely to have in the near future. Judging from a letter we have received from Yokohama this week, which sheds some interesting light on the position of iodine in that country, we should say the prospects are for a larger output this year than ever. It appears that during the Russo-Japanese War, when the price of crude iodine was advanced to 10½d. per oz., Japan strained every nerve to increase her production, and with

success, as the price was tempting. Thus, not only did she keep pace with her brisk home demand for iodoform and potassium iodide, but she found herself with a larger surplus than usual for export, as the following figures, which relate to iodine and iodine compounds, show :

	Quantity. lb.	Values. yen.
1905 (11 months) ...	57,214	250,819
1904	69,715	268,800
1903	29,753	101,174
1902	4,058	14,828

It will be remembered that the war broke out at the beginning of 1904, peace being declared in August 1905, so that the above figures afford ample evidence that Japan during the war paid increased attention to the iodine-industry. We also give the exports and values for each month of last year according to ports :

1905	Yokohama		Kobe		Total	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	lb.	yen	lb.	yen	lb.	yen
January...	8,890	35,882	200	1,088	9,090	36,970
February...	7,989	30,506	755	3,737	8,744	34,244
March ...	10,000	43,541	1,000	4,705	11,000	48,246
April ...	2,630	13,734	100	549	2,730	14,283
May ...	3,750	12,466	50	237	3,800	12,684
June ...	150	784	1,500	7,512	1,650	8,299
July ...	550	2,234	200	986	750	3,220
August ...	2,000	9,850	750	980	2,750	10,830
September	1,000	4,973	750	3,302	1,750	8,275
October...	10,000	49,897	200	1,057	10,200	50,954
November	3,000	15,752	1,400	7,057	4,700	22,810
	50,009	219,619	6,905	31,210	57,214	250,815

We understand the actual exports last year will be greater than is shown in the above table, as certain parcels were shipped as "drugs" or "chemicals." When the iodine syndicate reduced its price in December to 6*d.* for iodine and potassium iodide to 8*s.* 6*d.*, the Japanese makers practically withdrew from the export market, and at the present time potassium iodide meets with a ready sale in Japan at the parity of 9*s.* 3*d.* per lb., the considerable reduction in European prices having affected the price to the extent of about 1*s.* per lb. only. The three largest makers of iodides in Japan, who usually keep a stock of about 10,000 lb. to 20,000 lb. on hand, are quite outside the control of any combination. Indeed, they eagerly compete with each other in their endeavour to secure the largest quantities of the crude iodine. The chief kelp-producing districts in Japan are the province of Shima and the island of Hokkaido, but nearly all fishing districts produce a little. The industry is therefore more or less scattered along the coast of Japan, and is in the hands of many small producers, from whom the three largest firms procure their supplies. The annual production of iodine in Japan at present is estimated at about 200,000 lb., of which about 70,000 lb. is consumed there. As long as the price is low and unremunerative, the fishermen temporarily cease to cut and burn the seaweed, turning their attention to more profitable business; on the other hand, when the prospects improve and prices advance, they are busy again. It will thus be seen that the iodine syndicate has an exceedingly difficult task in fighting against the Japanese producers, and we doubt if ever it will be possible to stifle this native industry.

Westminster Wisdom.

Our Gallery representative reports that he will begin his notes next week. Little else than reappointing the Speaker and swearing in the new members has been done so far, and the King's speech will not be read until next week. Nego-

tiations are proceeding for the introduction of the Pharmacy Bill on the earliest possible opportunity. Mr. Lough may not, owing to his official position, take charge of it, but whoever the nominal introducer may be, Mr. Idris will, in all likelihood, be the one whom the trade will depend upon to disarm opposition, so far as it can be done by correct inside information. We hear that Mr. Idris is to take an early opportunity of bringing the naval hospital dispensers' grievance under the notice of the proper authorities.

Noralene.

We listened in mute admiration,
Enraptured, entranced, at the Square,
As she reeled off each camphor equation,
And we gazed at the board in despair;
She juggled with wild hydrocarbons
That had kept other searchers aloof,
But it plainly was seen
Dihydrolaurolene
Had succumbed to Misnorarenouf.

The Number of Medical Practitioners.

There is an interesting table of the number of medical practitioners in the new volume of the "Medical Directory" (Churchill, 14*s.*), from which it appears that the Directory contains the names of 38,921 medical men, made up as follows :

London	6,452
Provinces (England)	16,980
Wales	1,217
Scotland	3,785
Ireland	2,655
Resident abroad	4,667
Naval, military, and Indian Medical Services	3,165

The numbers in some cases are not strictly correct, as some of the addresses are uncommunicated, but taken as approximate they represent an increase of 545 over the previous year—a figure that is about normal. The Directory gives after each name a *résumé* of the experience and literary contributions of each person mentioned, which is a useful guide as to the standing of the doctor in the profession. The dental directory only contains the names of licentiates in dental surgery, and is thus only a partial list of the practising dentists.

Patabloids.

"Won't you come into my parlour?"
Said the Pata to Tabloid;
"I'm no consequential snarler,
And I'm anxious to avoid
Falling out; so drop your coyness,
For the pharmacists all say,
You must really come and join us."
Tabloid softly murmurs "Nay."

Jubilee of Mauve.

It is fifty years since Dr. William Henry Perkin discovered the dyestuff "mauve," which laid the foundation of the coal-tar colour industry. It is proposed to promote a Perkin memorial and jubilee celebration of the coal-tar colour industry. For this purpose a meeting is to be called at the Mansion House on February 26, at 3 p.m. A provisional committee has been formed, under the chairmanship of Professor R. Meldola, President of the Chemical Society, and it has been suggested that the public meeting should consider the following proposals :

1. The presentation to Dr. Perkin for his lifetime of an oil portrait of himself, executed by an eminent artist, the portrait to become the property of the nation at his death.
2. The execution of a marble bust of Dr. Perkin to be placed in the rooms of the Chemical Society.
3. The establishment of a "Perkin Research Fund" for the promotion of scientific research.

There are portents that the memorial will not only be national, but international, as promises of support have been

made from Germany, where the industry founded by Dr. Perkin has become a very important one. We need hardly remind readers of the *C. & D.* that at the time the discovery of coal-tar colours was made Dr. Perkin was trying to prepare synthetic quinine. He did not succeed in the object he had in view, but the accidental production of an intense colour in one of the reactions laid the foundation of the artificial colour industry, which has to-day assumed such enormous proportions. The Committee that has been formed for dealing with the matter is an exceptional one: it includes Lord Rayleigh, Lord Halsbury, Lord Avebury, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mr. J. Chamberlain, Mr. Haldane, Lord Justice Moulton, Sir E. Clarke, Sir James Dewar, Sir William Ramsay, Sir Henry Roscoe, Sir T. Wardle, Professor Armstrong, Dr. E. Divers, Dr. T. E. Thorpe, Dr. Dreyfus, Dr. Lewkowitsch, Dr. Messel, Mr. Friswell, Mr. D. Howard, Mr. Levinstein, Mr. Salamon, Mr. Tyrer, Dr. Mond, and Professor Meldola (Chairman).

Progressives.

The period of dalliance is over,
No longer the "sleep of the just";
No longer, like piggies in clover,
Do pharmacists dig up the "dust."
This age is the era of progress,
And chemists are first on the list,
For when not drafting Bills,
Making tablets or pills,
They are working at progressive whist.

"Now Saponin is a Glucoside."

"Punch" rather happily hits off the "Lancet's" recent escape into the aerated-beverage region in its principal rhyme this week. It begins thus:

["Now saponin is a glucoside."—The "Lancet," quoted in the "Daily Mail."]—

Stirred profoundly by this remark
I closed my "Mail" at St. James's Park;
And turned to the stranger next to me,
And tapped him gently upon the knee:
"Are you aware," I said with pride,
"That saponin is a glucoside?"

He dropped his "Times" right hastily:
"What do you think of it all?" said he,
"What do you think of Arthur B.—
Shall *he* be leader, or Joseph C.?
How can the 'opposite wings' agree?
It's all a puzzle," he said, "to me.
What do *you* think of it all?" said he.
"How can you doubt it?" I replied,
"Since saponin is a glucoside."

The rhymers was in an underground train and proceeded to address the question to a strap-hanger, who admitted:

"Our Army's not what it ought to be:
Our Fleet isn't fit to put to sea."

Then the questioner quizzed the conductor, received an equally non-pertinent reply from him, and mused on until:

It suddenly occurs to me
To wonder if the fellow lied
Who stated so explicitly:
"Now saponin is a glucoside."

Proprietaries in Prescriptions.

The percentage of proprietary medicines ordered in prescriptions was found last year (*C. & D.*, March 18, 1905, p. 437) to be 10 per cent. for the United Kingdom. This was at the time thought to be rather a lower average than would be shown if more prescriptions had been examined. The number examined was 1,728. The Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia" has made a survey of about 18,000 prescriptions, the statistics having been submitted from all parts of Australasia. The average in this case is 13 per cent. of proprietaries. The highest average is given in the case of city prescriptions, 16½ per cent., suburban and country dispensers having an average of 12.5 per cent. It is curious that there is such a comparatively close agreement with home figures.

Deaths.

HURST.—On February 5, Mr. George H. Hurst, F.C.S., analytical chemist, of Manchester. Mr. Hurst was well known as the author of several text-books on oils, paints, and colours.

JONES.—Suddenly, at Newmarket, Flintshire, on February 8, Mr. Owen Jones, chemist and druggist, Abergele, aged forty-two. Mr. Jones, who had retired from business, was taken ill while judging at an eisteddfod at Newmarket, and death took place before anything could be done for him. Mr. Jones took a leading part in the eisteddfodic and public life of Abergele and district, and was for some time conductor of the Abergele Male Voice Choir. He had represented Abergele and Pensarn Urban District on the Denbighshire County Council for several years. The "Canol-Ire Pharmacy" at Abergele, which the late Mr. Owen Jones established, was taken over by Mr. J. H. Owain-Jones. He leaves a widow and several children.

METCALFE.—At 42 Duke Street, Chelmsford, on February 7, Mr. Wilson Metcalfe, pharmaceutical chemist, aged fifty-seven. Mr. Metcalfe, who had suffered from paralysis for several years, went to Chelmsford from Manchester thirty-three years ago, entering into partnership with the late Mr. Seaton, chemist and druggist, of High Street. On the latter's retirement, Mr. Metcalfe became the sole proprietor of the business, and subsequently he purchased the business of Mr. Garrad Baker, which he carried on until illness necessitated his retirement from commercial life. Mr. Metcalfe took a deep interest in lawn tennis, cricket, and football, and he was a Past Master of the Good Fellowship Lodge (No. 276) of Freemasons. He leaves a widow, two sons, and two daughters.

PARR.—At Vepery, Madras, of apoplexy, on January 16, Mr. William Joseph Parr (of Messrs. W. E. Smith & Co., Ltd., wholesale chemists and druggists, Madras), aged thirty-seven.

PICKARD.—At Market Place, Stratton, Cornwall, on February 7, Mr. Henry Pickard, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-five. For some years Mr. Pickard suffered from neurosis, and the recent loss of his brother and other troubles proved too much for an enfeebled constitution. He was educated at Exeter, and was apprenticed to a chemist and druggist at Launceston. After experience at Bideford and London, on the death of his eldest brother, Mr. Sampson T. Pickard, he returned to his native town and carried on the business of grocer and seedsman, to which he added that of chemist and druggist. He was for many years vicar's warden at the parish church; he was a member of the Parish Council and of the Urban District Council; also one of the feeoffees of the Blanchminster Charity, and a member of the Committee of the Cottage Hospital.

ROBINSON.—At 1 Dundas Terrace, Marske-by-the-Sea, on February 11, Elizabeth Cook, widow of Mr. Richard Robinson, chemist and druggist.

STANSFIELD.—At Tyldesley, on January 29, Mr. Robert Wright Stansfield, chemist and druggist, formerly of Boothstown, Lancs., aged fifty-nine.

Recent Wills.

BOUTALL.—The late Mr. George Squire Boutall, chemist and druggist, 11 Portland Place, Brighton, and 52 Marchmont Street, Russell Square, W.C., left estate valued at 4,539*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* gross, with net personality *nil*.

COOPE.—Mr. Thomas Coope, chemist and druggist, Farnworth, Lanes., who died suddenly on December 26, 1905, left estate of the gross value of 7,626*l.* 10*s.*, with net personality 7,571*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* His wife receives the income during widowhood, then his children inherit the estate in equal shares.

STONE.—Mr. Thomas Stone, of Cote House, Tyndall's Park Road, Tyndall's Park, Bristol, and of Stone & Tinson, Crew's Hole, St. George's, Gloucester, and of Newport and Cardiff, chemical-manufacturers, who died on October 1, aged eighty-three, left estate valued at 19,647*l.* gross and at 10,647*l.* net.

WELCH.—Estate of the gross value of 3,355*l.* was left by the late Mr. Charles Welch, chemist and druggist, of 81 Southwater Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

THE FORMULE CASE.

AN Appeal Court, consisting of the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Ridley and Darling, on February 13 heard an appeal, in the case of *Wilkinson v. Bonvalee et Cie.*, by Mr. F. R. Cullingford, in respect to the action, tried in the City of London Court before Judge Rentoul, against an order to deliver to the plaintiff (receiver on behalf of the debenture-holders) certain formulæ for the manufacture of perfumes. The circumstances have been already reported in this journal. The appeal was allowed, with costs in this Court and in the Court below.

CHEMIST AND HAIRDRESSER.

IN the Chancery Division on Friday, February 9, Mr. Justice Kekewich had before him a motion in the case of *Heaton v. Rothery*. The plaintiff carries on the business of a chemist and hairdresser in High Street, Sheffield, and Mr. Maughan (who represented him) asked for an injunction to restrain the defendant, Mr. Lawrence Rothery, from being engaged or concerned in the business of a hairdresser in Sheffield or within eight miles from the parish church. The defendant was not represented by counsel, and his Lordship said he could not hear the solicitor who attended on his behalf. It appeared that defendant had formerly been in the employ of plaintiff, and, in partnership with Mr. Gray, had now opened a business opposite the plaintiff's, thereby committing a breach of an agreement he had entered into when in plaintiff's employ. Counsel agreed to accept an injunction referring only to Sheffield. His Lordship granted this until the trial, and said, though he could not hear the solicitor, the latter would advise his client wisely if he advised him to instruct someone to consent to judgment in the action.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

A COMMITTAL ORDER.

AN application was made at the Oldham County Court on February 8 for an order of attachment against William Hayward, unqualified manager to Messrs. Granville Wood & Co. at their Waterloo Street Branch, Oldham. It was explained that the Pharmaceutical Society had obtained two penalties of 5*l.* each against the defendant for selling poisons. The defendant had since given an undertaking to pay the penalties, and the only application before the Court was as to additional costs. The Court made an order for the payment of 10*s.* costs.

Pharmacy Act (Ireland).

THE SOCIETY'S RIGHT TO PROSECUTE.

MR. SWIFTE, Divisional Magistrate of Dublin, delivered judgment on the question raised in the Sharpley case (see *C. & D.*, February 10, pp. 237-8) as to the right of the Pharmaceutical Society to prosecute under the Act. As then reported he decided in the affirmative. We now give the full text of his judgment, it being of much forensic and historic interest:

These cases came before me on the 1st instant on five summonses issued, on the 25th ult., at the suit of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, against Mrs. Forbes Sharpley, of 7 Lower Camden Street, Dublin, two of these charging the defendant with offences under Section 30 of the Pharmacy (Ireland) Act, 1875 (38 and 39 Vic. cap. 57), committed on September 19, 1905:

(1) By keeping open shop for retailing and dispensing poisons within the meaning of the Statute 33 and 34 Vic. cap. 26—to wit, morphine—contained in and forming part of an article called "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," the defendant not being a person properly qualified in this behalf according to law; and (2) by selling the same poisonous mixture. Two similar summonses for the like offences committed on January 23, 1906, were withdrawn or abandoned; and the fifth summons was for the offence of not giving the information required to be given by Section 18 of the Pharmacy Act (Ireland), 1875, Amendment Act, 1890 (53 and 54 Vic. cap. 48).

The cases were fully heard and argued on the day first named, when Mr. William Meeke appeared as solicitor for the prosecutors, and Mr. Joseph Day (instructed by Messrs. Casey & Clay) as counsel for the defendant. Mr. Day raised a

preliminary objection to the right of the Society to prosecute on grounds which I shall presently state; but as the objection was a very novel one, and one that, though it might have been made any time during the last thirty years in numerous similarly-framed prosecutions, appears to have never been previously suggested, I thought it better (all the witnesses being in attendance) to let the hearing proceed, subject to Mr. Day's objection. In the result I fined the defendant 40*s.* on one of the two summonses issued in respect of the offences alleged for September 19, and a similar sum in respect of the summons issued under the Act of 1890, and ordered her to pay 40*s.* costs to the prosecutors in respect of each of these summonses. Section 4 of the Act of 1875 incorporates "The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland"; and Mr. Day's objection was founded on the case of *The Guardians of the Poor of the Parish of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, v. Franklin*, (1898) 3 C.P. Div., 377, which undoubtedly decides that

a corporation cannot sue for penalties as a common informer unless expressly empowered by Statute so to do.

And he further relied on the fact that the Act of 1875 contains no express provision authorising the Society to prosecute for penalties, whereas in the corresponding legislation for England the Registrar of the Society is empowered by Section 12 of the Pharmacy Act of 1852 (15 and 16 Vic. cap. 56) to recover penalties

in the name and by the authority of the Council of the said Society.

And this provision is continued by Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act (1868) (31 and 32 Vic. cap. 121). There is no doubt that the Shoreditch case (as I may call it for brevity's sake) is still good law, and recognised as such in all the recent text-books; and, therefore, if the Society are suing here as common informers, I admit that the prosecution must fail, for I do not think that the words in Section 4 of the Act of 1875 relied on by Mr. Meeke, empowering the Society

to sue and be sued

by their corporate name, can give them any power to prosecute which they would not otherwise possess, as these words appear to point mainly to procedure. They are constantly found in enactments creating corporations. Now, it seems to me (in considering the question what is the "common informer," or, as some writers say, it might equally, and perhaps more correctly, be called the "common informant") the statutory destination of the penalty is all-important. In the Shoreditch case the penalty (which was for selling coals fraudulently) was recoverable

by the person or persons who shall inform and sue for the same.

That is the typical case of a penalty recoverable by the common informer; and the plaintiffs in that action claimed not only damages for breach of contract, but—

suing as well for the Queen as for themselves.—

i.e., in the form of action for penalty—also a large sum for penalty. That case was cited and was distinguished by Palles, C.B., in a comparatively recent Irish case which, being a criminal one like the present case, seems more analogous—the case of *The King (Thomas Ferris) v. Justices of Londonderry*, 1903 (2 I.R. 74). It was, like the Shoreditch case, a proceeding by Guardians of the Poor. The head-note is this:

A Board of Guardians (which is a body corporate) prosecuted F. at Petty Sessions for wilfully neglecting to maintain his wife, so that she became destitute and was relieved in their workhouse. F. was convicted. Held, without deciding whether or not a criminal prosecution could be instituted by a corporation as common informers, that the conviction should be upheld, since the Guardians were in the present case not common informers, but parties aggrieved.

On an application for a certiorari, counsel for the applicant cited the Shoreditch case, and relied on the fact that Boards of Guardians were made corporate bodies by 1 and 2 Vic. cap. 56, section 27, but that if they were now here authorised to prosecute, he contended that the proper course would have been to have brought a prosecution in the name of the Relieving Officer, citing "Mooney's Poor Law" (pp. 46, 47, 48). The judgment of Palles, C.B. (in which Andrews, Barton, and Wright, J.J., concurred) was, so far as here material, very short. His Lordship said (p. 48):

I doubt whether the case cited (Guardians of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, *v.* Franklin) has any application here. It was a civil action for a penalty. The proceeding before the Justices here was a criminal prosecution. It is, however, unnecessary to determine this, as the Guardians here are, under 10 and 11 Vic. cap. 84, sect. 2, not common informers, but parties aggrieved.

If any authority were required to show that the present case is (like the one just cited) a criminal one, I would refer to the case of *The Queen v. Sullivan*, 1894, I.R. 8 C.L. 404, where the Court for Crown Cases Reserved laid down that—

where the Statute imposes for an offence against the public (as the unauthorised selling of poisons is), the amount of which penalty is to be meted out by the Justices according to the magnitude of the offence, the proceeding to recover the penalty is a criminal one.

Now, the section under which the Chief Baron pronounced the Guardians to be "aggrieved parties" merely provides

that every person who shall desist or wilfully neglect to maintain his wife or any child whom he may be liable to maintain, so that such wife or child may become destitute and be relieved in or out of the workhouse of any Union in Ireland, shall, on conviction thereof before any Justices of the Peace, be committed to the Common Jail or House of Correction, there to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding three calendar months.

If the Guardians were "aggrieved parties" under that Section, it would apparently be because the neglect of wives and children there dealt with must tend to increase the poor rate, as to which the Guardians are substantially trustees for the ratepayers. Could we not say that the prosecutors here have a more tangible grievance under the Act of 1875, where the monopoly of the members of the Society to deal in poisons is invaded by unauthorised vendors, thus doing an actual pecuniary injury to the members? There is an important case, decided by the English Court of Appeal in 1881, on the question of "common informers" and "parties aggrieved," to which I shall refer presently, and which shows that the question of the meaning and applicability of the latter expression is sometimes a very difficult one to determine. In the meantime I may mention some of the definitions of "common informer" given in the text-books and law dictionaries. Sweet's definition is at p. 430 of the 1882 edition:

A "common informer" is a person who sues for a penalty which is given to any person who will sue for it, as opposed to the penalty which is only given to a person specially aggrieved by the Act complained of.

Now, the Pharmacy Act of 1875, Section 36, gives two-thirds of the penalty recovered to the Treasurer of the Society, which shall by him be applied to the purposes of this Act in the manner prescribed by any regulations made in pursuance of this Act.

The other one-third is to be paid to the person who shall be the means of bringing to justice any person committing any offence against any of the provisions of this Act. I was not informed as to any regulations made under this Section, but in any event two-thirds of the penalty recovered must go to the Society in aid of the general purposes of the Act, and not to any person who will sue for it. I understand that the practice here has been to pay the other one-third to the inspector of the Society, or the person who gives the necessary evidence to sustain the prosecution. It seems to me that the individual "common informer" might sue under the Act and recover that one-third; for it was laid down by Cockburn, C.J., in *Carlton's case*, 1860 (2 Ell. & Ell. 695)—

that where the offence is not an individual grievance, but is a matter of public policy and utility and concerns the public morals, any person has a general power to inform and sue for the penalty, unless the Statute creating the offence contains some restrictions or regulations limiting the right to some person or party.

The "Encyclopædia of English Law," vol. 6, p. 459, defines "common informers" as persons who institute legal proceedings with the view of recovering the reward offered by Statute in such a case, irrespective of any particular grievance suffered by them through a breach of the Statute.

In the case of criminal proceedings [it adds] any person may institute proceedings on behalf of the Crown unless the Statute otherwise provides; but civil proceedings for penalties by persons not directly aggrieved cannot be instituted unless the Statute so permits.

This passage seems to support the distinction between civil and criminal proceedings suggested by Palles, C.B., in the Londonderry case already cited. The definition of the "common informer" given in Edwards's "Judicial Dictionary" (p. 967, ed. 1903) is:

A person suing for a penalty which goes to any person who will sue for it.

The penalty under the Act of 1875 manifestly does not satisfy that condition. The case in the English Court of Appeal to which I have already referred is *Robinson v. Currey*, 1881, reported in that Court in 7 A.B.D. at p. 405, and in the Court of Appeal (whose judgment was reversed) in 6 A.B.D. at p. 21. The action was brought by the officer of one of the companies of Goldsmiths mentioned in 7 and 8 Vic. cap. 92, to recover penalties for selling (some eight years previously) silver with a counterfeit imitation of the marks used by the company. The main point which came to be raised and argued was whether the company were "parties aggrieved." Certain penalties were imposed, and the Statute said that the same might be sued for and recovered by any of the several companies of Goldsmiths, of which the plaintiff's company was one. The Act 3 and 4 William IV, c. 42, section 3, declares that actions for penalties given to the "party aggrieved" must be brought within two years after the cause of action. *Bramwell, L.J.*, said

that the expression "party aggrieved" was not a technical expression; the words were ordinary English words, and ought to have an ordinary meaning put on them. The "party aggrieved" was not brought into existence by the Statute which gave him the penalty; he was a person who was supposed to exist, and the Statute was passed on account of the grievance. None of the companies, however, could have maintained any action against the defendant, and, therefore, they could not be said to be "aggrieved." The company merely sued for the penalty in pursuance of a public duty, as a kind of public prosecutor, upon the same principle upon which he might

prosecute an indictment at law, if an indictment could lie, where the thing is prohibited and no penalty is fixed.

Lush, L. J., said

that "parties aggrieved" must mean parties who had sustained some damage by reason of the act done for which the penalty was fixed. The party must be one who already had a cause of action as soon as the act had been committed. In that case, as no legal injury had been sustained, the Statute which limited the action to two years was held not to apply. It was also held that the action was not one by a common informer within 31 Elizabeth, c. 5, which limited his right of action to one year.

Lord Justice *Lush*, in discussing the question of "parties aggrieved," further said (p. 475):

Now, are the company in that position? The penalty is inflicted upon every dealer in gold or silver wares who sells or exposes for sale, or has in his possession without lawful excuse, any wares of gold or silver having thereupon any forged or counterfeit mark; and the penalty may be sued for and recovered by any of the several companies mentioned in the Act. Now, what legal injury has either of these goldsmiths' companies sustained by the man having in his possession or selling a lot of gold or silver plate stamped with a counterfeit mark? The person who buys any such ware in the belief he is buying an article stamped with a genuine mark is the "party aggrieved"; but no penalty is given to such a man at all, and he is left to his action at common law for any amount of injury he may sustain. In no sense can it be said that these goldsmiths' companies are "aggrieved" by the act of selling, which is the act in respect of which this penalty is sought to be enforced.

This authority was not cited in the Londonderry case. For all these reasons, whether or not the Society are "parties aggrieved" in this case (which the above decision would seem to suggest they are not, unless the fact that this is a criminal proceeding distinguishes it), I hold that they are not suing as common informers here, and are, therefore, not within the *Shoreditch* decision; and I must affirm the penalties and costs I have already imposed upon the defendant. (These were 4*l.*, with 4*s.* costs).

Mr. Meeke, solicitor (of Messrs. A. O. Robinson & Son, solicitors for the Society), said the Society felt very much obliged to his Worship for the trouble which he took with his very able judgment.

ANOTHER COMPANY CASE.

At the Ballymena (co. Antrim) Petty Sessions on February 9, before the Right Hon. John Young, P.C., D.L. (in the chair), *Mr. Andrew Kennedy, J.P.*, and *Mr. Robert Barclay, J.P.*, a summons was heard in which an apprentice named John Campbell was prosecuted for selling London vermin-killer, containing a poison (strychnine), to one Miss Elizabeth Martin, now deceased, on October 13, 1905, he not being a person qualified to sell the same.

Mr. Joseph Donnelly, solicitor, Belfast, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and *Mr. J. K. Currie*, solicitor, Ballymena, defended.

Mr. Donnelly explained that Campbell was an assistant in the employ of Messrs. Bonnar & Henderson, Ltd., Ballymena, and the vermin-killer sold contained strychnine. The prosecutor named in the summons was Sergeant Tresilian, of the R.I.C., who represented the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. A death had taken place as the result of the sale of this poison. He did not think the defendant would have been the person prosecuted if it had been possible to institute a prosecution against the company.

Sergeant Tresilian said he remembered the death of Miss Martin on October 14. Subsequently he got a packet of vermin-killer from Head-Constable Brennan. Witness was present at the inquest on the body of Miss Martin, and the defendant, who was examined thereat, said that he sold a packet of London vermin-killer to Miss Martin on the evening of October 13, the lady having asked him for the smallest quantity of poison he could give her for killing rats or mice. He gave her a packet of London vermin-killer, and he told her that it contained strychnine. He did not ask her to enter her name in a book kept for the purpose, but he (Campbell) made the entry when he heard of Miss Martin's death.

The Chairman asked if there was not a properly qualified man standing beside the defendant when he was making the sale.

Mr. Currie: I will satisfy you beyond yea or nay that that was so.

Mr. Donnelly: The first I heard of the qualified person being in the shop was when *Mr. Currie* told me.

Mr. Currie said the sale took place under the qualified man's superintendence, and the vermin-killer was compounded on the premises by that qualified man.

Head-Constable Brennan deposed to getting the packet (produced) from Dr. D'Evelyn.

Dr. Alexander Evelyn gave evidence as to Miss Martin's death. She had taken about two-thirds of the packet, which contained about 30 grains of strychnine.

Mr. Currie, for the defence, said that if illegality was committed by the employé of a firm it was the head of the firm that was responsible, and to make the defendant responsible here would be the same as to say that a publican's assistant could not sell drink to the public because he was not the holder of the public-house licence. Who was responsible in this case? Was it not the master? But the case was brought about by this Pharmaceutical Society because they wanted to exterminate limited companies. He quoted the case of the *P.S.I. v. Boyd (C. & D. Diary, 1906, p. 295)*, and stated that Mr. Pollock, a qualified man, was present when Campbell made the sale, and he saw all that was going on.

William James Pollock, pharmaceutical chemist, was then called, and said he was in charge of Messrs. Bonnar & Henderson's drug-store. He compounded the London vermin-killer. He was behind the counter when Miss Martin came into the shop on October 15. In cross-examination witness stated that about eight unqualified persons are employed by Messrs. Bonnar & Henderson, of whom three are in the drug department. He saw the sale to Miss Martin being made by Campbell. He was questioned about sales of the vermin-killer being registered, but Mr. Currie objected, and the Chairman sustained the objection. Witness further stated that Mr. Henderson, one of the company, is qualified also, and he is frequently in the shop.

After the Magistrates had deliberated for some time, the Chairman said it would be admitted on all hands that it was their duty, as far as possible, to protect the public from any mistakes being made in chemists' establishments by the sale of poison by unqualified persons. In this instance they thought the apprentice was entitled to a dismissal because the transaction took place in the presence of his superior, and with his consent, that superior being a qualified man under the Act, and they did not see that whether the packet was handed to the customer by the superintendent or apprentice affected the legality of the transaction. They dismissed the case on that ground. He would like to know if Mr. Donnelly intended to go further with the case.

Mr. Donnelly said he would communicate with the Society.

The Chairman said, if the Society did intend to go further, Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Currie could agree on the terms of the case to be stated, but he would advise Mr. Donnelly to let it alone.

The case then ended for the present.

Medicine-stamp Acts.

THE POSSESSIVE CASE.

At Salford last week action was taken at the instance of the Board of Inland Revenue to recover from Messrs. F. L. Smith, Ltd., chemists, 240 Regent Street, Salford, the penalties (20*l.*) imposed by the 1812 Act in respect to the sale unstamped of two bottles of "F. L. Smith's lung and chest healer," one sold at the above address and the other at the Company's Pendleton shop. The defence was that there had been some doubt as to the liability of the medicine duty, and the case was one for a nominal penalty. The Bench imposed a fine of 10*s.* in each case, with 1*l.* costs.

COUGH-REMEDY AND CACHETS.

At Bow Street Police Court on Thursday afternoon, February 15, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, Joseph Cofman, chemist and druggist, 41 Hart Street, W.C., was summoned at the instance of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for selling medicines unstamped that were liable to stamp-duty.

Mr. Hawkins, of the Solicitors' Department, Somerset House, who prosecuted, said the offences were committed at 41 Hart Street, W.C., where an Inland Revenue officer was sold "Cofman's Cough-remedy" and "Antineuralgic Cachets," both unstamped, and at 428 St. John Street, Clerkenwell (a shop which at the time of the sale belonged to the defendant), where a bottle of "Cofman's Cough-remedy," unstamped, was bought on another occasion. The Inland Revenue inspector called on defendant, who admitted that he had been in trouble with the

Inland Revenue authorities two years previously. On being asked by the inspector to produce his stock of stamps, defendant was found to have only five 1½*d.* stamps on his premises. The facts were admitted, and Mr. C. H. Kirby (solicitor to the Chemists' Defence Association), who defended, explained that the reason for keeping the medicines unstamped was that the ingredients in the cough-remedy were liable to fermentation and the cachets were liable to deliquescence. The sales were inadvertently made by careless assistants in the absence of the defendant. The defendant's practice (in order to avoid selling a deteriorated article) was to stamp the medicines just before selling, but he was not able to supervise every sale himself. He did not keep a large stock of stamps because these were the only two articles he sold that required stamps. The Magistrate imposed a fine of 40*s.* and 23*s.* costs in the first case, and ordered defendant to pay 2*s.* costs in each of the other cases.

Spirit Act, 1880.

MEDICINE MADE WITH METHYLATED SPIRIT.

At the Liverpool Police Court on February 12, William Edward Evans, herb-beer seller, was summoned by the Excise authorities for having in his possession on November 25 two articles capable of being used internally as medicine, in the preparation of which methylated spirit had been used—viz., "stomach and liver mixture" and "anti-stomachic drops." Defendant admitted the offence, but pleaded that he acted through ignorance. The Bench imposed a penalty of 2*l.* in each case, and five guineas costs.

County Court Cases.

WHAT IS "MIST. BISM. COMP."?

At the Peterhead Sheriff Court on Friday February 9, the hearing was resumed by Sheriff Robertson of the action for slander brought by Mr. Alexander Gall, chemist and druggist, Fraserburgh, against Dr. R. A. Slessor of the same town, the damages sought being 250*l.* The circumstances of the case were told in our previous reports (see *C. & D.*, November 11, 1905, p. 764, and December 9, p. 898). The alleged slander was contained in a letter written by defender to pursuer, in which he asked Mr. Gall to "refund money got by false pretences" from a patient. Dr. Slessor was in the habit of sending his prescriptions to Mr. W. W. Hunter, chemist and druggist, Fraserburgh, and Dr. Slessor's patient in this case took his prescription to Mr. Gall, who dispensed it. On learning this Dr. Slessor rang up pursuer on the telephone, and complained that the medicine was wrong. This statement was repeated in the letter complained of. The ingredient alleged to be wrong was "mist. bism. comp.," a preparation well known in the town, but Dr. Slessor averred that he has a special prescription for this, and that Mr. Gall dispensed a different article (an acid preparation). Subsequent to writing the letter Dr. Slessor got his patient's landlady to get Mr. Gall to repeat the mixture, and this was done as before. The present stage of the hearing was what is known in Scotland as "proof"—that is, evidence in support of parties' statements at the previous hearings. Mr. C. G. Masson, solicitor, appeared for the pursuer, and Mr. Samuel McDonald, solicitor, for defender.

WITNESSES FOR DR. SLESSOR

were called. Mr. W. W. Hunter, chemist, Fraserburgh, the first of them, submitted prescriptions by Drs. Traill, Beddie, and Slessor, the object, Mr. McDonald explained, being to show that special prescribing is done in Fraserburgh. The Sheriff would not, however, admit all the prescriptions, but allowed specimens to go in.

Mr. James Duncan, chemist, Aberdeen, the next witness, having spoken to the custom of chemists in regard to doubtful prescriptions, was asked what he would do about the prescription in question, which was handed to him—viz.:

Mist. bism. comp. ...	...	...	5iss.
Liq. peptici ...	...	...	3vj.
Aloin. ...	...	...	gr. j.
Nepenthe ...	...	...	5iss.
Aq. ad ...	...	...	3vj.

M.

Fig.: 3ss. t.d.s. p.c.

R. A. S.

Witness replied that he would have dispensed it using mist. bismuthi co., B.P.C. It would not be necessary, he

told the Sheriff, to refer to the prescriber. In reply to Mr. Masson witness explained that there are twenty-eight or thirty formulæ for *mist. bismuthi co.*—practically all the same.

Mr. William McKenzie, chemist and druggist, Crieff, said the custom of the chemist retaining prescriptions was not uncommon, and he was questioned at considerable length by counsel on each side as to the custom in regard to dispensing prescriptions which contain something not official, such as *mist. bismuthi comp.* He explained that what would be done would depend upon who was the prescriber, and if there was doubt the prescriber would be referred to.

A fish-curer, a tobacconist, and a fisherman (all local) were then called to prove that in their experience every doctor in the district has his own particular chemist.

The evidence of Mr. William Cruickshank, chemist and druggist, Fraserburgh, was next taken, and it brought out the fact that there are recognised in the town prescriptions similar to that in question, one acid and the other alkaline. He was handed a prescription and thought it was Dr. Slessor's, but it was similar to one of Dr. Beddie's. This reply did not satisfy Mr. McDonald, who remarked that witness had told him the day before that it was Dr. Slessor's, whereupon Mr. Masson said, "My friend is bullying his own witness." Continuing, witness said he had dispensed the prescription for Dr. Beddie, and gave an acid *mist. bismuthi co.*, whereupon Mr. Masson remarked, "That is exactly Gall's," and was rebuked by the Sheriff for saying so. In reply to the Sheriff, witness said he would have dispensed Dr. Slessor's prescription with an acid mixture, and in answer to Mr. Masson said he thought it was left to the discretion of the dispenser what he understood *mist. bism. comp.* to be.

Dr. Lewis B. Beddie, Fraserburgh, in the course of his evidence, said he did not know to which chemist the majority of his prescriptions go, but when a patient asked him where to go he recommended Mr. Burnett's. He then explained that *mist. bismuthi co.* is known to all chemists in Fraserburgh: it was first prescribed by his brother, who died in 1897, before Dr. Slessor came to the town. In cross-examination witness was shown Dr. Slessor's prescription and one of his own, and it transpired that they were alike, with the exception of "alk" added to the bismuth compound and simple syrup being in one and not the other. He regarded Dr. Slessor's prescription as a copy of his own. He considered that Mr. Gall's mixture fairly represented the prescription. Witness was questioned by the Sheriff as to the composition of the mixture and its effect, and also by counsel at considerable length in regard to Fraserburgh custom, his replies going to show that his brother's *mist. bismuthi co.* has been known in the town for twenty years, and is written "*Mist. Bismuthi alk.*" when the alkaline is desired, and "*Mist. Bismuthi Comp.*" when the acid one is intended. This preparation is commonly dispensed in the town, no matter who writes the prescription, and witness suggested that if Dr. Slessor has a special preparation "*Slessor*" should be written after the name of the article.

Mr. John Hill Low, chemist and druggist, manager to Messrs. McDonald, Fraserburgh, produced his firm's books showing that two prescriptions for *mist. bism. comp.* were copied in it. He understood that the preparation originated in Mr. Burnett's shop, and said he would have had no hesitation in dispensing Dr. Slessor's prescription, if he had got it, with the acid mixture.

Dr. Trail, Dr. Cruickshank, and Dr. Alexander Wood also gave evidence.

Dr. Slessor, the defender, was next examined. He deposed that when Mr. Hunter started business in Fraserburgh he agreed that he would be his special chemist. Witness had used *mist. bism. comp.* before he began practice in Fraserburgh: it contains seven or eight ingredients, and is almost similar to Hewlett's. At Mr. Hunter's suggestion a less expensive preparation was compounded. In this particular case he had prescribed an alkaline mixture, and he detailed the conversation he had had with pursuer over the telephone, when he ascertained that he had dispensed the prescription.

Mr. W. D. Jameson, manager of the late Mr. Burnett's pharmacy, also gave evidence and was followed by Mr. Alexander Gall, the pursuer, who said he had been ten years in business on his own account in Fraserburgh. He

was then shown several prescriptions, most of which he said he knew. If he were in any doubt about any of them, he said, he would have communicated with the doctor. He had *mist. bism. comp.* in his shop, and often dispensed it for *mist. bism. acid.* He never hesitated a moment in dispensing Dr. Slessor's prescription, nor did he alter any prescription without consulting the doctor, and he did not substitute anything in Dr. Slessor's prescription. The patient said she was very much the better of the mixture, and he repeated it for her the same as at first.

The case at this stage was adjourned till Monday in the Aberdeen Sheriff Court.

There was a little delay in resuming the case on Monday consequent on Mr. C. G. Masson, solicitor for pursuer, not arriving in time. When he did the first witness called was Mrs. Mutch, with whom lived the girl who got the prescription. The principal point of her evidence was that Dr. Slessor had called at her house, given her half a crown, and asked her to get Mr. Gall to repeat the mixture. This was some days after the defender had complained to the pursuer about the mixture dispensed not being what he wanted, and after the alleged slander was written. The mixture was dispensed as before.

Dr. Thomas Fraser, Aberdeen, followed with evidence as to *mist. bism. comp.* He said he knew Hewlett's and the B.P.C., and gave some particulars about the prescription ingredients. He was of opinion that dispensers should consult prescribers when there is any point of doubt in a prescription.

Professor Finlay gave similar evidence.

Mr. W. W. Hunter, chemist, Fraserburgh, deposed to being eight years in the town, and for two of them he has been in business on his own account. He spoke to finding it the practice there for each doctor to have his own chemist, and the chemists retain the prescriptions of their doctors. He is Dr. Slessor's special chemist, and Dr. Slessor had given him his own prescription for *mist. bism. comp.* when witness told him Hewlett's was too dear. Witness added that he had been six years in Mr. Burnett's shop, and had never seen *mist. bism. comp.* prescribed there. Witness was narrowly cross-examined by Mr. Masson on the point, especially as to why he did not tell Dr. Slessor at the time he got the prescription for *mist. bism. comp.* that there were other bismuth compounds with similar names in Fraserburgh. "Pharmaceutical Formulas" and other books were produced, and witness was asked if these did not show *mist. bismuthi co.* to be a well-known compound, but witness replied, "It is not a well-known preparation at all, let it be in as many books as you will." He admitted that if he had had to dispense the prescription in Aberdeen without being able to refer to the prescriber he would have used, say, *mist. bismuthi co. B.P.C.*

This concluded the evidence for the defence, and on resuming after luncheon there were called

WITNESSES FOR THE PURSUER.

Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, assistant secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society in Scotland, was the first. In answer to Mr. Masson, witness said he is a recognised referee in all matters of dispute among chemists in Scotland. *Mist. bism. comp.* is generally known throughout the United Kingdom. An Edinburgh druggist would have no hesitation in dispensing the prescription, and if in any doubt the general practice in Edinburgh is to telephone to the offices of the Pharmaceutical Society. Witness would advise acid instead of an alkaline compound in the present case owing to the pepsin. Shown letter containing the alleged slander, witness said it did not seem at all a creditable thing of any professional man to write anyone such a letter.

The Sheriff: You are asked what would be the effect upon the person who received the letter.

Witness: I think it is a reflection upon his professional character.

Mr. Masson: You would not like to get it as head of the Pharmaceutical Society?

Witness: As a dispenser I should think it a very serious matter to be charged with getting money on false pretences when I had acted honestly.

Witness was then cross-examined by Mr. McDonald, chiefly as to the custom of the trade when in doubt regarding a doctor's meaning, his opinion being that when the chemist cannot get at the doctor he does his best in the circumstances.

Witness was asked if he would give a "Pharmaceutical Formulas" preparation in this case, and he promptly replied, "No, because I recognise it as a Fraserburgh mixture, and I know the Fraserburgh practice. Farthing that I would give such a mixture as that in 'Pharmaceutical Formulas,' vol. ii, p. 84" (indicating one of several).

Mr. J. F. Tocher, F.L.C., Ph.C., Peterhead, gave skilled evidence as to the prescriptions which had been placed on record in this case. He did not regard the items in the prescription as being special to a particular chemist. If he were asked to dispense the prescription, he should use a mist. bism. co. with an acid reaction, as an alkali would destroy the liquor pepticus. There are many makers of compound bismuth mixtures, he said, and if he did not know whose compound was intended he would dispense the B.P.C. preparation. Shown letter sent by Dr. Slessor to Mr. Gall, witness said that he would feel very much aggrieved at such an imputation. In cross-examination witness said the reaction of Hewlett's preparation is not alkaline. Witness was also questioned by the Sheriff, who wanted to know what justification there would be for a chemist to dispense an acid mixture when it was known that a private formula was intended. Mr. Tocher pointed to the presence of pepsin, and that it is, according to the rules of pharmacy, given in acid, whereupon the Sheriff remarked: "That is to say, you would prefer to take your own opinion before the doctor's?"

Mr. Alexander Gall, the pursuer, was the last witness examined. He deposed that the only difference between mist. bism. co. in defender's prescription and the prescriptions in common use in Fraserburgh was that "co." was used instead of "alk." or "acid." He had followed exactly the rules in pharmacy. The second ingredient being acid, the first ingredient should be acid too. The rest of his evidence was directed to prove the injury he had sustained in his business in consequence of Dr. Slessor's action. The Sheriff questioned him as to why he dispensed the prescription a second time when he knew that Dr. Slessor had been very angry about the acid mixture being dispensed on the first occasion, and that Mr. Hunter was the Doctor's chemist.

The Sheriff's questions concluded the proof, his Lordship's last remark being: "You had this letter charging you with false pretences, and yet, instead of dispensing the mixture wanted, you went and repeated what you knew to be wrong."

The case was adjourned until February 16, when counsel will be heard in the Peterhead Sheriff Court.

X-RAY BURNS.

At the Hants Assizes on Thursday, February 7, the hearing was commenced, before Mr. Justice Bucknill and a special jury, of an action by Mr. James L. Ellis, a solicitor's clerk, against Messrs. Bridge & Co., Ltd., chemists, Bourne-mouth, to recover damages for alleged negligent use of x rays. It was contended for the plaintiff that Mr. Harold Keene, a director of the defendant company, applied (on medical advice) x rays to plaintiff's feet as a specific for locomotor ataxy. An x-ray burn subsequently appeared, and the plaintiff attributed this to negligence on the part of Mr. Keene. After a three days' hearing, in the course of which expert evidence was given, Dr. Ord (who prescribed the treatment), Dr. Chisholm Williams, Dr. Searson, Mr. Gardiner (assistant to Sir William Crookes), and Mr. Coldwell (who took the radiograph of his Majesty's knee), his Lordship summed up. He said the questions for the jury were, Did the defendant company contract with Dr. Ord to apply the treatment in the way that was followed, or did they agree with Dr. Ord to treat his patient's case in the way in which Dr. Ord arranged to treat it? Were the defendants negligent in applying the rays when the body was too close to the bulb, and did Mr. Keene go out of the room when he should not have done so, and did that tend to produce the injuries which were said to exist? One remarkable feature of the case, he added, was the question put to doctors, "Do you know the defendants?" The sting of it was that the question implied that the doctors had come to speak for people who had made up their prescriptions as they were personal friends. It was a lamentable thing to say to

gentlemen unless there were some grounds for saying it. The jury failed to agree, and were discharged.

ARBROATH CODEINE-SYRUP CASE.

SHERIFF LEE of Arbroath gave judgment on Monday, February 12, in the action for damages brought by Mr. C. P. Milne, Congregational minister, against Mr. D. H. Burn, chemist and druggist, Arbroath, in respect to injuries inflicted on pursuer's child through defender supplying on prescription a mixture containing strychnine instead of codeine. His Lordship found as a fact that strychnine was dispensed and supplied, and that the dose given to the child did temporary but not permanent injury. Pursuer sought 100*l.* damages, and his Lordship awarded 3*l.*, the sum paid by defender to pursuer before the action was raised. He also found the defender liable in the expenses incurred under the remit to Messrs. Tatlock & Thomson on December 13, 1905, and in the amount of the fee of the witnesses, Messrs. Jack and Macdougald, and, *quoad ultra*, found the pursuer liable to the defender in expenses.

THE JUDGE'S STRICTURES.

At Hull City Court on February 6, Judge Sir G. Sherston Baker gave a verdict in the case of John Southern, trading as the North Lincolnshire Drug Company, Grimsby, against George T. Rogers, blacksmith, of Sutton, Hereford. Plaintiff claimed 2*l.* 13*s.*, the price of cattle-oils forwarded to defendant under what the chief witness claimed to be a purchasing agency. On the other hand, it was urged that defendant merely agreed to become agent, understanding that he would pay for the goods if and as he sold them.

His Honour said that had the parties to the action both been educated men he would probably have given a verdict for the plaintiff. He was, however, dealing with a very ingenious firm, who sent out their circulars broadcast for the purpose of tempting illiterate persons to accept their terms. He was mindful that in law no contract was a contract unless it was entered into with full assent and full understanding by both parties. Did Rogers understand the very specious documents sent to him by the plaintiffs? He believed he did not. He could not sufficiently deprecate the system pursued by the plaintiffs, and, in addition to finding for the defendant with costs, he was prepared to certify the case to be one of special public interest, and would award defendant's solicitor two guineas.

A Question of Compensation.

At Barking Public Offices on February 7, Mr. C. B. O. Gepp (Under-Sheriff of Essex) and a special jury heard a claim by Messrs. Samuel Cooper, Ltd., drug-store proprietors, East Street and Axe Street, Barking, and assessed the amount of compensation to be paid to the claimants by the London, Tilbury and Southend Railway Co., who had compulsorily acquired their premises at 113 East Street. The amount of the claim was 2,500*l.*, but this was reduced to 1,634*l.* Mr. Spencer Bower, K.C., and Mr. Dickens, jun., represented the claimants; and Mr. H. F. Dickens, K.C., and Mr. Frampton were for the railway company. Considerable local interest was taken in the proceedings, Mr. J. H. Bethell, M.P., being assessor for Messrs. Cooper and Mr. C. J. Dawson for the railway company. In opening the case Mr. Bower said Samuel Cooper, Ltd., was incorporated six or seven years ago; it was practically a one-man company, who was Samuel Cooper. Altogether there were 112 shares, and of these 100 were owned by Mr. Samuel Cooper and his wife. What they were asking for was 1,360*l.* for the goodwill, which represented four years' profits; 303*l.* odd for the lease; 75*l.* for the fixtures, which had been agreed to by both sides; and loss on the forced sale of stock, 51*l.*; making a total of 1,789*l.* There were, however, certain deductions which they were prepared to make, which brought the total amount claimed down to 1,634*l.* Mr. Samuel Cooper gave evidence bearing out his counsel's statement. In cross-examination he said he was not a qualified chemist, and, that being so, he had to trade under the name of a company and employ a qualified chemist. Mr. J. H. Bethell, M.P., said four years' purchase was the proper amount to estimate for the goodwill of the business, and the total amount claimed (1,634*l.*) was a fair compensation

for the loss of the business. Mr. Alfred Savill, estate agent and valuer, New Broad Street, E.C.; Mr. W. S. Fish, of Berdoe & Fish, chemists' valuers, 35 Jewry Street, E.C.; and Mr. Alfred Manners, of Judd & Manners, chemists' valuers, 46 Cannon Street, E.C., all agreed that four years' purchase was the fair value of the business. For the railway company Mr. Chatfield Clarke, surveyor to the railway company, and Mr. C. J. Dawson, a local architect and surveyor, gave it as their opinion that one year's purchase was ample compensation. Mr. G. W. Brown, of Orridge & Co., chemists' valuers and transfer agents, 56 Ludgate Hill, E.C., said the business under consideration would not realise in the open market as a going concern more than half a year's net profit for the goodwill. He would be prepared, he said, to undertake the removal of the stock from one shop to another for 10%, including breakages. The Under-Sheriff having addressed the jury, they, after a short consultation, found the claimants entitled to compensation, and assessed the total amount at 790%. Judgment was entered for that amount.

Bankruptcy Reports.

Re H. E. HEYES, F. A. HEYES, and H. P. NUTTALL (trading as Berkeley & Pilling), Wealdstone (Herts) and London. Specialists in Toilet-preparations.—Debtors appeared for their adjourned examination at St. Albans Bankruptcy Court on February 6, but no fresh particulars transpired and the examination was closed.

Re WILLIAM ARTHUR PEARSON, 5 Lloyd's Avenue, Fenchurch Street, E.C., Colonial Merchant, Produce Broker and Shipper.—Under the failure of this debtor, now managing director of Pearson & Co. (London), Ltd., the first meeting of creditors was held on Wednesday at the London Bankruptcy Court. No accounts were submitted, but the debtor roughly estimates his liabilities at 5,000%, and his only assets are shares charged to creditors.

Re J. E. PRESTON MUDDOCK, Great Portland Street, W., Author and Journalist.—At the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. G. W. Chapman, Official Receiver, on February 12, the first meeting of creditors was held under this failure. According to the debtor's statement he is at the present time acting as manager to a syndicate formed to exploit a preparation for preventing the bites of insects, more especially those of mosquitoes. He is doing practically no journalistic work, his failure being due to that cause and to excessive interest on borrowed moneys. He returned his unsecured liabilities at 2,555%, and his net assets at 85%.

Re ALBERT PRIESTLEY, residing at Sunny Bank, Lidget Green, Bradford, and carrying on business at Hollings Mills, Grattan Road, Bradford, as a Machinery-merchant and Pill-manufacturer.—A statement of affairs has been issued in this case which shows liabilities expected to rank 8,160%. 15s. 11d., and assets (after deducting 251%. 18s. 6d. for preferential claims) amounting to 1,573%. 1s. 8d. Debtor has carried on for some years past a subsidiary business of pill-making, under the style of the Anæmia Pill Co., in which he states that he has lost 600%. He attributes his difficulties in the pill business to the want of the necessary capital for a sufficient scheme of advertising, his estimate of the amount of money needed properly to advertise his pills being 40,000%.

Re HAROLD BUCKLE, 1 Henrietta Street, Hartlepool, Chemist and Druggist.—Debtor came up for his public examination in the Sunderland Bankruptcy Court on February 8. His gross liabilities were returned at 297%. 5s. 9d.; expected to rank for dividend 291%. 3s. 3d., and assets 110%. 14s. 3d. Debtor commenced business in June, 1895, with a capital of about 50%, which he had saved from his earnings as a chemist's manager. In his examination he said he had been manager of five branch shops in London. When he commenced business he did very well. His turnover was 600% a year, and he would make about 25 per cent. profit on that. He dealt more in ordinary drugs and chemicals than in patent medicines, or his profit would have been much less. Three years ago his turnover dropped considerably, owing to bad trade in Hartlepool, and his income for the last three years had been 100%, 70%, and 40%, whilst his household and personal expenses had been 90% a year. He did not realise he was insolvent until six or seven months ago; but he admitted that if he had kept proper books of account, and taken stock periodically, he ought to have known three years ago. He did not think it was usual for chemists to take stock. He kept a complete record of his receipts and payments up to August last, when he dropped keeping a record of his payments. The examination was adjourned.

Re CARL HOHMANN, late of 33 Seething Lane, E.C., Druggists' Sundriesman.—Under a receiving order made against

the debtor the first meeting of creditors was held on Tuesday, February 13, at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. G. W. Chapman, Official Receiver. The debtor, who has since February last acted as London agent for a patent-food company on commission terms, states that he was formerly a partner in the firm of Hartmann, Hohmann & Co., carrying on business at the above address. The business was originally started by Mr. Otto Hartmann, and some four years ago he (debtor) and Dr. R. Weiss joined that gentleman in partnership. Mr. Hartmann had 500% in stock and cash, Dr. Weiss contributed 200%, and he provided 750%. Shortly after the partnership was entered upon a branch business was opened at Manchester, but it was not profitable from the outset. About that time Dr. Weiss and he entered into partnership in respect of a business known as the Electro-Medical Institute, at Victoria Park, Manchester, each partner contributing 110%. That partnership only lasted a few months owing to disagreements, and it was arranged that Dr. Weiss should retire from the druggists' salesmen's business of Hartmann, Hohmann & Co., and that he (debtor) should withdraw from the business of the Electro-Medical Institute. Litigation ensued regarding the terms of the dissolution, and debtor was unable to proceed with the actions. The business of Hartmann, Hohmann & Co. was subsequently continued by Mr. Hartmann and himself, but, owing to the continued actions brought by Dr. Weiss against the firm, the trading could not be carried on successfully, and they agreed to dissolve in December 1904, on terms that Mr. Hartmann paid him by instalments for his interest in the business. The amount of that interest had never been ascertained, but he subsequently sued Mr. Hartmann for 360%, representing the first instalment. Judgment went by default, but he recovered nothing from Mr. Hartmann, who was without means, the business having been sold to a limited company, which claimed the assets. The debtor had not filed a statement of his affairs, but he roughly estimates his liabilities at 700%, and the value of his assets has yet to be ascertained. In the absence of any offer the case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver to be wound-up in bankruptcy.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Allen, R. R., and Shortt, W. R., Dartford, Kent, general medical practitioners.

Leech, H. R., and Southall, S., Birmingham, general medical practitioners.

Stephenson, O. T., and Martin, L. C., Woolston, near Southampton, physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Schmitz, Theodore Cassims, Red Lion Square, W.C., and Grangehyrst, South Norwood Hill, S.E., formerly a sponge-merchant, now of no occupation.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Hohmann, Carl, Catherine Court, Seething Lane, E.C., and East Twickenham, druggists' sundriesman.

Wicks, James Percy, Walton-on-the-Naze and Colchester, mineral-water manufacturer.

New Companies and Company News.

JAMES A. SHEPHERD & CO., LTD.—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 5,000%, in 1% shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemical-manufacturers in all its branches. Registered office, Forth Works, Forth Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow.

HEALTH SPECIALITIES, LTD.—Capital 21%, in 1% shares. Objects: To carry on the business of makers and vendors of medicinal, dietetic, and other specialties, chemists, druggists, mineral-water manufacturers, etc. Registered office, 45 Finsbury Square, E.C.

LONDON AND HULL SOAP-WORKS, LTD.—Capital 70,000%, in 5% shares (7,000 preference). Objects: To adopt an agreement with W. Darby & Co. for the acquisition of certain properties and undertakings in London and Hull, and to carry on the business of soap manufacturers and merchants, etc. Registered office, 18 Eldon Street, E.C.

SMITH'S SILVER-KEEPER CO., LTD.—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 3,000%, in 1% shares. Objects: To acquire the business of Smith's Silver-keeper Co., including the manufacture and sale of "Smith's Silver-keeper," "Smith's Clean-all," tooth-powder, toilet-powder, and similar articles. The first directors are D. Anderson, W. Dow, C. Gunn, G. Gladstone, and H. Miller. Registered office, 153 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

THOMAS ROBERTS & SON (OF BANKHALL), LTD.—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take over as a going concern the business of a chemical-manufacturer carried on by A. Roberts at 17 Juniper Street, Bankhall, Liverpool, as "Thomas Roberts & Son." The first directors are Mrs. A. Roberts, J. R. Roberts, Miss A. M. Holt, Miss E. S. Roberts, P. H. Mott, H. T. Whitford, and W. H. Rayner. Registered office, 17 Juniper Street, Bankhall, Liverpool.

LONDON PAINT AND VARNISH CO., LTD.—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (2,000 6-per-cent. non-cumulative preference). Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in paints, varnishes, enamels, creams, washes, compounds, pigments, cements, oils, dyes, stains, oils, size, starch, etc.; to acquire the business carried on at West Drayton, Middlesex, as the "Resilta Co."; and to adopt an agreement with Patents and Industries, Ltd. Registered office, 3 London Wall Buildings, E.C.

TURVEY INSTITUTES FOR LADIES, LTD.—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the sole right of using the Turvey treatment in homes or institutes for female inebriety in Great Britain or elsewhere, to adopt an agreement with M. Piper-Rickmann, and to carry on the business of specialists and experts in the treatment of alcoholism and drug-addictions. The first directors are M. Piper-Rickmann, J. S. Robertson, A. H. Johnston, and L. H. Skinner. Registered office, Amberley House, Norfolk Street, W.C.

INTERNATIONAL SPONGE IMPORTERS, LTD.—The directors recommend a further distribution of 4 per cent. on the ordinary shares, making 7 per cent. for the year ended December 31, 1905.

JOHN OAKLEY & SONS, LTD.—The directors recommend a final dividend of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares, making 10 per cent. for the year, and in addition a bonus of 5 per cent. They also recommend that 5,000*l.* be carried to general reserve (raising this account to 74,000*l.*, and making, with the capital reserve, a total reserve of 77,734*l.*), leaving a balance of 3,579*l.* to be carried forward.

W. B. FORDHAM & SONS, LTD.—Subject to final audit, the accounts, after provision has been made for depreciation, etc., enable the directors to recommend a final dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, for the half-year ended December 31 last, making, with the interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum already paid, 5 per cent. for the year.

KEMBALL BISHOP & CO., LTD.—The report for the year ended December 31, 1905, states that the accounts show a profit of 8,344*l.*, which, added to 577*l.* (the amount brought forward from 1904), gives a total of 8,921*l.* The directors have now placed 321*l.* to leaseholds redemption account, 903*l.* to plant and machinery renewal fund for depreciation, and 540*l.* to reserve account. After deducting managing directors' salaries and directors' fees (amounting to 1,700*l.*), and 16*l.* provision for income-tax, there remains a balance of 5,439*l.* This provides for the usual dividend of 6 per cent. on the preference shares, and leaves 939*l.* to be carried forward.

BOVRIL, LTD.—The annual meeting of the company was held at River Plate House, Finsbury Circus, E.C., on February 9, with Viscount Duncannon in the chair. Dealing with the report and balance-sheet (for particulars see *C. & D.*, February 3, p. 188), the Chairman drew attention to the fact that "trade and sundry other creditors" was 2,342*l.* more than last year, "reserve" was 20,000*l.* better, "doubtful debts and dilapidations" 862*l.* more. The balance of profit and loss was larger by 7,530*l.* After some criticism it was moved by Mr. Tremmer that in future balance-sheets the freeholds and goodwill should be set out as separate items. Alderman Smith seconded, but the resolution was lost by a large majority. Resolutions were passed re-electing Mr. George Lawson Johnston and Mr. Douglas Walker as directors, and the auditors were reappointed.

BERTIE SMITH & CO., LTD.—The "Indian Investors' Referee" of January 20 criticises this Bombay company's last balance-sheet, which showed assets Rs. 5,95,471, and liabilities Rs. 2,19,045, or a balance to the good of Rs. 3,76,326. Our contemporary states that Rs. 2,00,000 of the assets represents practically what was paid to the original vendor for goodwill, and otherwise objects to items in the assets as doubtful (one is stock in hand "under lien" and "in transit" Rs. 2,33,429). The main point of the criticism is that the year's trading up to June 30, 1905, showed a loss of Rs. 7,223, this being the deficit after paying the following charges: interest, Rs. 31,833; legal expenses, Rs. 13,010; bad debts, Rs. 1,524; brokerage on loan, Rs. 3,000; salaries and wages, Rs. 15,827; and managing director, Rs. 9,000. The "Indian Investors' Referee" calls this (from the shareholders' point of view) "carrying on business for the benefit of others."

GEDDES MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.—A compulsory winding-up order having been made against this company, the statutory meetings of the creditors and shareholders were

held on Tuesday, February 13, at the Board of Trade Offices, Lincoln's Inn, Carey Street, W.C. Mr. H. E. Burgess, Assistant Receiver, reported that the company was registered under Table "A" on January 6, 1904, with a nominal capital of 3,000*l.*, to acquire a business, then carried on by the Geddes Manufacturing Co., in the manufacture and sale of medicines for the cure of asthma, bronchitis, etc., and for the sale of horse-rugs, etc. At one time the sole proprietor of the business was Mr. W. E. Geddes, who had previously been managing director of the St. Jacobs Oil Co. in London. He passed on this business to his wife, and subsequently relinquished his position on the other company and became managing director of this company at a salary of 300*l.* a year. Under the purchase contract this company agreed to pay 1,500*l.* in fully paid shares for the goodwill of the business, with the exclusive right to use the name, together with the furniture, book-debts, pending contracts, and other property. The company also took over the existing liabilities, but at present the Official Receiver had not been able to ascertain their amount. Apart from the vendors' shares, only forty-eight shares had been allotted—seven to the signatories and forty-one for cash. The business had been carried on by the company at a loss throughout, and recently the landlord distrained upon and seized certain goods. The unsecured debts amounted to between 700*l.* and 800*l.*, and were principally due to trade creditors. A creditor for 125*l.* held goods as security, which he had sold for 25*l.* There were also preferential claims for 103*l.* The failure of the company is now attributed by Mr. Geddes to neglect of the business during an illness which incapacitated him for eleven months from attending to it. The liquidation was left in the hands of the Official Receiver, who intimated that he would be prepared to deal with any offers to acquire the business and remaining assets of the company.

Business Changes.

Properly authenticated business notices (not being advertisements) are inserted in this section free of charge if promptly communicated to the Editor.

MR. IDWAL JAMES has taken over the chemist's business at Abergwynfi, Port Talbot, Glam.

MR. FRANK HANCOCK, chemist and druggist, is opening the Rodwell Pharmacy, in Dorset Place, Weymouth.

MR. G. M. ARROWSMITH, chemist, Oxford Street, White-stable, is having a new house and shop erected.

MR. T. M. JENKINS, chemist and druggist, has removed from Salisbury Square, Cathays, Cardiff, to 9 Glynrhondda Street, Cathays, Cardiff.

MR. H. A. WANKLYN, 17 Manchester Avenue, London, E.C., informs us that he has relinquished the city agency for Messrs. Breidenbach & Co.'s goods.

The premises at the corner of Joseph Street, Stoke Road, Gosport, having been sold, Messrs. W. B. Smith & Son, chemists, have removed their business to 47 Stoke Road.

MR. R. T. GILL, chemist and druggist, formerly of Brighouse, Yorks, has taken over the business at 30 Snow Hill, Hanley, formerly belonging to Mr. Walter Hartle, chemist and druggist.

MR. C. WESTON, pharmaceutical chemist, has acquired the old-established business at 48 Fore Street, Kingsbridge, Devon, carried on for some years by Mr. W. T. Mignot Tucker, chemist and druggist.

MR. A. DAVIDSON, chemist and druggist, has purchased from Mr. W. J. Rugg, chemist and druggist, the business at 45 Fore Street, Trowbridge. Mr. Rugg is sailing for New Zealand at an early date.

MR. W. ACFIELD, chemist, of Ewell Road, Surbiton Hill, Kingston-on-Thames, who is retiring from commercial life, has disposed of his business to Mr. O. R. Windemer, pharmaceutical chemist, Tunbridge Wells.

MR. A. T. MAXWELL, chemist and druggist, of the Central Pharmacy, Gateshead-on-Tyne, has purchased the business of Messrs. W. J. Lund & Co., at 51 Penny Street, Lancaster, which has recently been developed under Mr. W. Pattinson, who is retiring.

MR. JOHN LORIMER has retired from the directorship of Lorimer & Co., Ltd., Islington, N., Mr. Horace Brocklesby being appointed sole managing director. Mr. John Lorimer will continue the travels abroad, in which he has been chiefly engaged during the past two years.

Correspondence

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. Publication of letters does not imply our agreement with the arguments or approval of the statements therein. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects presumably of interest to our readers generally.

BUSINESS INFORMATION.—We have very full records of the makers or agents for articles and products connected with the chemical and drug trades, and supply information respecting them by post to inquirers. Inquiries regarding any articles which cannot be traced in this manner are inserted under "Information Wanted."

No Secrecy in Pharmacy.

SIR,—“Xrayser’s” observations are always acute, and generally enlightened by wit, but his reflections are, I fear, tinted by his prejudices. Undoubtedly secrecy has much to do with the efficacy of medicine, for it is often as useful to conceal from patients the particular drugs which they are taking, as it is sometimes well to keep them ignorant of their diseases. But there should be no secrecy in pharmacy—that is to say, in the preparations made for the use of medical men—nor in the compounds offered broadcast to an ignorant public.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

H. WIPPEL GADD.

Parsley Pier.

SIR,—The name of this favourite old herbal remedy seems to have puzzled the reporters. In your report of the Lancaster inquest (*C. & D.*, p. 181) reference is made to the herb as “parsley pier.” A report elsewhere renders it “parsley peet”! Parsley pier is the popular name of *Alchemilla arvensis*, the field-lady’s mantle. It is further known as “breakstone,” from its supposed diuretic and lithonryptic properties. Of course it is not a parsley at all, and only gets that name from a curious corruption of the French *perce-pierre* or pierce-stone. Yours truly,

Brighton, February 15. C. S. ASHTON.

Companies and the 1868 Act.

A *Subscriber* (215/51) writes:

The two articles *re* the Lords’ decision of 1880 in your issues of January 27 and February 3 are, in my opinion, to be counted as two of the most valuable among the many excellent articles which appear from time to time in the “paper which pays the rent.” I think I could bring some influence to bear on two members of Parliament, and shall be very pleased to do anything I can in that direction if you will indicate what steps should be taken.

We have received similar expressions of opinion from others, and have supplied reprints of the articles. Copies have also been sent to the secretaries of all the Chemists’ Associations in the country to communicate with their members of Parliament.

A Half-holiday for Assistants.

SIR,—Having been recently applying for a situation, I am surprised at the comparatively small number of chemists who give their employés a weekly half-day holiday. The majority of other trades have accepted this custom, and I am convinced that chemists’ assistants, even more so than men engaged in other callings, on account of their long hours of work, require a weekly holiday as being almost their only opportunity of obtaining exercise or recreation. The hours of chemists are even now longer than nearly all other trades in the Kingdom, 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. being considered quite the most favourable hours one may expect. In London and other large towns they are as a rule much longer, and there are usually late hours of duty to be taken every second or third night, in addition to Sunday work. It is unfortunate that all legislation on this subject has so far exempted chemists from the regulations enforced in the case of other trades, but I am certain that, as regards a weekly half-holiday, chemists in all classes of trade (whether dispensing businesses or otherwise) by adopting reciprocal measures could very easily arrange to give their assistants one; in towns where chemists do not shut entirely there are always one or two afternoons on which business is dull,

when chemists and their assistants could take their half-holiday alternately. I do not think that chemists’ assistants as a class are afraid of work, but I consider that, with the long hours of confinement they are subjected to, a weekly holiday is absolutely essential to their physical well-being.

Yours faithfully,

MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO. (210/60.)

Cancer and Trypsin.

SIR,—I observe in your issue of February 10 a communication from Mr. J. Beard, D.Sc. It has been repeatedly brought to my notice of late that Dr. Beard is anxious to claim priority in suggesting the use of trypsin in the treatment of cancer. So far as I am concerned, I have no desire whatever to claim priority or any credit at all. In view, however, of Dr. Beard’s statements in your columns I feel compelled to offer the following remarks:

Dr. Beard asserts that he suggested trypsin in his lecture in Liverpool on January 20, 1905, his “own abstract,” of which he tells us “occupies a whole column of the ‘Liverpool Post’ of January 21, 1905.” He seems, however, to have overlooked the fact that without any communication with him, and without any knowledge of his views or others, I had already commenced the treatment of cancer by trypsin injections and pancreatic preparations on January 19, 1905 (*vide* the “Lancet,” February 11, 1905). The suggestions which led me to this treatment—whatever its value or limitations may prove to be—were founded on clinical and chemical investigations, and absolutely independently of any embryological theory. They were known to many, and published in my pamphlet of October 1904; the “British Medical Journal,” January 7, 1905; the “Lancet,” January 14, 1905; with full conclusions and details of treatment in my small book “The Nature and Treatment of Cancer,” August 1905. Briefly, there appeared to be some connection between diabetes and cancer, and the clinical fact of these diseases alternating in different members of the same family directly led to the inference that, as is well known in diabetes, so also in the cell-proliferation of cancer the pancreas might be nutritionally at fault. Chemical investigations consequently into the solvent action of various ferments, including those of the pancreas upon glycogen, were undertaken for me early in December 1904 by Mr. F. W. Gamble, and led to the discovery that the proteolytic ferment of the pancreas—trypsin alone, or aided by alkalies and bile salts, broke up glycogen as well as glucose, and immediately led to the preparation of a solution of trypsin for hypodermic and therapeutic use. On February 4, 1905, Dr. Beard’s Edinburgh lecture appeared in the “Lancet,” in which he independently and for different reasons corroborated the view already expressed by me that in cancer the pancreas was at fault. He therein states:

The change in nutrition initiated at the critical period in vertebrate animals, from fishes to man, is based on the commencing functional activities of the pancreas. This introduces an alkaline digestion by means of the pancreatic juice with its various ferments. . . . The commencing activities of the pancreas initiate an alkaline digestion by means of the most powerful and important of all the digestive juices, the pancreas. To which of its ferments the observed results be due does not concern us. If the secretion be absent, neither the asexual structures of a fish development nor the cells of chorio-epithelioma do, or can, degenerate.

What precise value, then, is to be attached to his Liverpool conclusion in respect to trypsin or to his claims to trypsin in support of his embryological conclusions and in the treatment of cancer, subsequently to the conclusion and therapeutic application of trypsin published by me in the “Lancet” of February 11, 1905? In his postscript Dr. Beard goes on to assert that the suggestion that experiments should be made upon the Jensen mouse-tumour with trypsin were made by him long before he knew of the existence of myself or of Mr. Gamble. He states that

in December 1904 Professor Jensen had sent a mouse with such a tumour to Professor Grunbaum for my work. . . . It is due to Dr. H. Wade to state that he offered me the facilities for making these experiments last summer. . . . When this was reported to Dr. Shaw-Mackenzie, Mr. Gamble offered to send the trypsin.

I have to state that in May 1905 Dr. Beard wrote to me: “I

am trying to get from Grunbaum one or more of my mice with Jensen's tumour. Wade has agreed to inoculate a series of mice, and together we should then try the effects of the ferment treatment." It is strange that he did not mention his previous suggestions and negotiations with Professor Grunbaum. In June I offered to send the injections and particulars of the same which I was using, if wished, and having ascertained from Mr. Gamble that he would kindly furnish the injections gratuitously, the offer was gladly accepted.

It is, of course, impossible for me to trespass on your space more than to refer briefly to the known excess of glycogen in fetal tissues and in cancerous growths—in fact, wherever cell-growth is active. Dr. Beard himself, in his publication of these experiments on Jensen mice, stated in the "Medical Press and Circular," December 20, 1905:

It is a ghastly albeit a glad sight to behold these skeletons of cells with their cytoplasm and nuclei sucked dry of something (? glycogen and albumin) which in life made up a good deal of their substance.

In the "British Medical Journal" of January 20, 1906, in commenting on the coma produced in the Jensen mice after the first injections of trypsin, he refers to auto-intoxication, perhaps, "by some other products of the tumour (? an alcohol) as extracted and digested by the large dose of trypsin." It is, I submit, difficult to conceive that this could be the product of cancer-albumin. Moreover, in asserting that glycogen is not a living substance, and that cancer-albumin is, Dr. Beard overlooks the fact that I have already drawn attention to the view that in the living body glycogen is probably in nitrogenous combination, and thus the action of the proteolytic ferment of the pancreas rather than its diastatic is readily understood.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN A. SHAW-MACKENZIE, M.D. (Lond.).

London, February 13.

METROPOLITAN ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Charles H. Fentiman asks us to explain that his suggestion is for an association not exactly for social purposes. The italicised word was printed "several" last week.

Legal Queries.

See the "C. & D. Diary," 1905, for much legal information about all trade matters. In any circumstance not covered by the articles therein, state the case explicitly with all particulars and submit to the Editor.

Macler (219/33).—(1) Any number of persons not exceeding twenty may carry on business in partnership without registration as a limited company, but such a partnership of persons, any or all of whom are not registered under the Pharmacy Act, may not keep open for selling poisons, although they employ a qualified chemist as assistant. (2) You will find the information you require in our *Diary*.

Taleum (217/15).—Part of business premises let off are obviously not a charge upon the working expenses of the business, and the rent received should, in ascertaining net profits of the business for the purpose of commission, be deducted from the total rent or added to the net profits.

L. K. (218/2).—The only legal way to stop the passing-off practice is to gather your evidence and take proceedings. You say the local solicitor cannot advise you. That may be due to his supposition that you have not proved your case, or he may not desire to undertake the action. As a rule legal proceedings in local matters of this kind do nobody any good. Probably you think the injury done to you is greater than it really is. A good going proprietary can generally afford to ignore the effects of cases of passing-off which are actionable. It costs in fees more to stop them than the injury involved, and the action often brings the other article from obscurity into the full glare of profitable publicity.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

X. Y. Z. (203/2).—BALLROOM-FLOOR COMPOSITION.—Powdered cetaceum or a mixture of hard paraffin (6) and borie acid (1) are the two dustless powders used for preparing ballroom floors.

E. S. B. (190/7).—ADVERTISING-NOVELTIES FOR DISTRIBUTION.—If you look through the advertisements in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* and *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, you will notice that several firms offer the advertising-matter you desire.

F. R. R. (198/62).—Thanks for your letter; but a personal charge such as that contained in it should be very amply corroborated before it is made.

Castorum (205/14).—As to terpene hydrate, there is not much to choose between your preparation and the other; the latter appears to contain more alcohol than yours, that being the only means whereby more terpene hydrate can be retained. But yours appears to be quite as full in terpene hydrate, and we do not advise you to change it. It is a nice preparation.

Troch. (32/106).—The so-called SOFTENING OF THE BEARD, which barbers are supposed to do before shaving, is not really softening of the hair: it is simply thorough cleansing of the skin and hair from all matter which might prevent the razor-edge gripping and cutting quickly. Comfort in shaving is merely a question of thorough lathering, a good razor, and an expert manipulator.

Aniline Blue (210/66).—Your tablet is a 2-grain one of methylene blue. It has been recommended in such doses for the treatment of gonorrhœa, but is now considered to be a failure generally.

J. E. (209/42).—Thanks for yours with original order.

E. B. (204/45).—SYR. FERRI OXIDATI SACCCHARATI.—The formula given in "Ph.F." p. 778, needs careful attention to the strength of the ferric-chloride and caustic-soda solutions. The finished syrup is described by Fischer as consisting of "a mixture of ferri-saccharate with sugar, in which hydroxide of iron dissolves in the presence of free sodium hydrate." According to Stahlschmidt, the stability and miscibility of the syrup depend on preserving certain proportions between the ferric chloride, sugar, and caustic soda. The following is this investigator's way of putting it: "A stable preparation is obtained by treating hot aqueous solution of ferric chloride sweetened with cane-sugar (the aqueous contents of which equal at least twenty times the weight of the iron contained in the ferric chloride employed, and the sugar contents must never fall below twelve times the amount of iron oxide corresponding to the iron contained) with hot soda-lye, the soda contents of which are double, and the water contents ten times, the weight of the iron contained, in the ferric chloride employed." The percentage of iron is subsequently adjusted.

Inquirer (214/35).—BOOK ON WATERPROOFING.—Refer to the bibliography given in this year's *C. & D. Diary*.

L. & K. (203/69).—NON-FREEZING LIQUID FOR MOTOR-CARS.—We had no information as to whether the calcium-chloride solution we examined answers the purpose (*C. & D.*, January 20, p. 98). It is possible that the salt in solution may clog or rust the pump. A mixture of wood-naphtha 1 part, water 3 parts, is a recent recommendation. It is claimed that the naphtha solution will not freeze at 0° F.

S. C. P. (Hooghly) (215/22).—BRILLIANT BOOT-POLISH.—A polish to suit your label is made from the following recipe, omitting the aniline black if the polish is to be used for both black and brown boots:

Shellac	...	...	...	3iiss.
Spirit	...	...	...	3xiiss.
Dissolve and add to a solution of—				
Curd soap	...	...	...	5iiss.
Hot spirit (25-per-cent.)	...	...	...	5iv. 5vj.
Glycerin	...	...	...	5ss.
Then add—				
Best aniline black	...	...	...	5ss.
Proof spirit	...	...	...	5xiiss.

Keep for two weeks in a warm place before bottling.

C. H. S. (206/53).—(1) PRECIPITATING SILVER FROM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOLUTIONS.—Potassium sulphide (liver of sulphur) is added to the solution in excess, the precipitated silver sulphide is allowed to settle, collected and reduced to the metallic state under the blowpipe. (2) DRY BATTERIES.—Several recipes are given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" which we have not space for here.

W. T. G. (209/12) asks, "What is 'Lock Salmon,' a drug said to be sold in the Midlands." Possibly Locatelli's balsam is intended, but there is nothing in "W. T. G.'s" inquiry to guide us. Some subscriber in the Midlands can perhaps help us.

F. O. (214/26) writes: "Can any brother chemist recommend me a sock or any other arrangement that would prevent the toes of a four-year-old child from curling under?"

Radix (9/2).—SHAVING-CREAM.—The addition of a small proportion of powdered soap will, we think, get over your difficulty. You might note also that white of egg is used to increase the pearly appearance of shaving-creams.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., February 15.

A QUIET FEELING is evident in drugs and chemicals, and there are few important fluctuations in value, the changes being mostly limited to articles of a minor character. Among chemicals citric acid is a shade firmer again, and for acetic acid still higher prices are expected. Oxalic acid is offering at rather under the lately advanced prices. Lead acetate is in brisk demand, as stocks here are small. Bromide prices are still nominal, makers being averse to selling, and quinine is flat, operators awaiting the result of the Amsterdam bark-sale. Morphine salts and codeia will be reduced as from to-morrow (Friday). Drugs (apart from the auctions) show few changes. Castor oil is easier, Japan wax is lower, and in opium a decline of 4*d.* has taken place in Smyrna. Cod-liver oil is unaltered, and grey Jamaica sarsaparilla is dearer. Among essential oils lemon is very firm, owing to the high prices being paid for fresh lemons. Star-aniseed, too, is firm, and higher prices are now asked for Mitcham peppermint, owing to heavy purchases from the distillers. Spices have been a feature this week, and of late there have been several important advances, mostly based on short crops. This especially applies to nutmegs, mace, tapioca, chillies, and Cochin ginger. Pepper and cloves are, on the other hand, lower. The following are the principal alterations of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes (Cape)	Buchu	Areca	Colocynth
Asafetida	Citric acid	Beeswax	(Span.)
Cannabis ind.	Mace	Calumet	Codeine
Nutmegs		Carbolic acid	Ergot
Peppermint oil		Castor oil	Menthol
(Mitcham)		Coca-leaves	Morphine and
Sarsaparilla		Pimento	salts
(grey)		Quicksilver	Opium
Turmeric		(seconds)	Wax, Japanese
(Madras)			

Heavy Chemicals.

The general demand in the heavy-chemical market for both main and miscellaneous chemicals keeps up well, and the prospects for a continuation of this condition seem promising. Values all round are on the steady side.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is still only quiet, though perhaps moving a shade better than it has been. Present nearest values: Beekton, February-April, 12*l.* 15*s.*; Beekton terms, 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; London, 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Leith, 12*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; and Hull, 12*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.* 10*s.*

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Main products are in good all-round request. Bleaching-powder is fully maintained at 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 15*s.* per ton for soft wood casks on rails. Caustic soda steady at unaltered figures; 76 to 77 per cent. 10*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton; 70 per cent. 9*l.* 15*s.* to 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton; and 60 per cent. 8*l.* 15*s.* to 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*. Ammonia alkali continues to move well, and does not fluctuate from 4*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* 15*s.* per ton in bags free on rails. Soda crystals keep steady, and are in somewhat better request on home account, at 62*s.* 6*d.* to 67*s.* 6*d.* per ton Tyne, and 67*s.* 6*d.* per ton f.o.b. Liverpool. Salteake continues in good request, especially on export account, and price is steady at 30*s.* to 32*s.* 6*d.* per ton, free on rails in bulk. Bicarbonate of soda is without alteration at 6*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, in large casks, and 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton for smaller packages. Chlorates of potash and soda are quiet at 3*l.* 4*d.* to 3*l.* 5*d.* per lb. in accordance with quantity, etc. Yellow prussiate of potash 4*l.* 3*d.* to 5*d.* per lb., and yellow prussiate

of soda 3*l.* 4*d.* to 3*l.* 5*d.* per lb. Hyposulphite of soda still keeps on the scarce side, and with continued good demand prices are well maintained. Ordinary crystals in large casks 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton, and in 1-cwt. kegs 6*l.* 10*s.* to 9*l.* per ton in accordance with quality and quantity. Silicates of soda in steady demand at unaltered rates; 140° Tw. 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; 100° Tw. 3*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; and 75° Tw. 3*l.* 5*s.* to 3*l.* 15*s.* per ton, dependent upon quality, quantity, and destination.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, February 14.

CASTOR OIL.—Good seconds Calcutta continues in steady demand on the spot, with sales at 4*d.* per lb.; for shipment quotations remain firm at 3*l.* 4*d.* per lb. First-pressure French is more firmly held at 3*l.* 4*d.* to 3*l.* 5*d.*, and for shipment is quoted at 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Marseilles.

GUINEA GRAINS meet with rather more inquiry at steady prices.

NITRATE OF SODA in steady demand at from 11*s.* to 11*s.* 3*d.* per cwt., according to quality.

BEESWAX.—The sales include 15 bags of Chilean at 7*l.* 10*s.* per cwt., and 23 packages of Peruvian at 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 7*l.* 15*s.* per cwt., according to quality.

LINSEED.—Sellers being anxious to realise, the market is rather easier for River Plate.

CASTOR SEED.—An arrival of Brazilian readily sold at 12*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., ex quay.

OLIVE OIL.—Very firm on the spot and to arrive. Spanish is now quoted at 40*l.* 10*s.* per tun, c. and f.

LINSEED OIL.—In sympathy with the seed is slightly easier at 21*s.* to 22*s.* per cwt. naked.

TURPENTINE is steady at from 43*s.* 9*d.* to 49*s.* per cwt.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, February 13.

Business in general is very quiet, and the drug-market is no exception to the rule.

AGAR-AGAR is steady at from 280*m.* to 290*m.* per 100 kilos.

ALOES.—Curaçao is firmer at 52*m.* per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR.—Refined is very firm, with a brisk demand at 735*m.* per 100 kilos.

CARNAUBA WAX is firm, grey being scarce, and 300*m.* per 100 kilos. asked, while 460*m.* is asked for fine yellow.

ANISEED.—Russian is firm at from 55*m.* to 56*m.* per 100 kilos.

CITRIC ACID is very firm at 280*m.* per 100 kilos.

ERGOT is quiet at 320*m.* per 100 kilos.

FENUGREEK is steady at 18*l.* 3*m.* per 100 kilos.

JALAP is strong, there being little in first hands; present quotation is 90*m.* to 95*m.* per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA is unchanged at 13*l.* 4*m.* per kilo.

MENTHOL is quiet on the spot at 17*l.* 4*m.*, and forward 16*l.* 2*m.* per kilo.

SANTONIN is firm at 72*m.* to 76*m.* per kilo.

JAPAN WAX is quiet at 107*m.* to 106*m.* per 100 kilos.

WORMSEED is very firm at 135*m.* per 100 kilos.

SUGAR OF MILK is in good demand at 125*m.* per 100 kilos.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is easier at 55*m.* per 100 kilos, for first pressing in barrels. Cod-liver is quiet at 65*m.* to 66*m.* per barrel for non-congealing oil. Chinese wood-oil is firmer, with a strong demand at 63*m.* spot and 59*l.* 2*m.* per 100 kilos. for forward. Japan fish-oil is quiet at 24*m.* per 100 kilos.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Staranise is firmer at 12*l.* 4*m.* per kilo, Cassia is firm at 7*l.* 2*m.* per kilo. H.G.H. peppermint is quoted 13*m.* to 13*l.* 2*m.* per lb. Japanese is quiet at 9*l.* 4*m.* to 9*m.* per kilo., and camphor oil is scarce at 130*m.* per kilo.

ACETANILIDE is quoted at from 9*l.* 2*d.* to 10*d.* per lb., according to quantity.

ACID, ACETIC, is firm, and in some quarters higher prices are still looked for.

ACID, CITRIC, is again a shade firmer, at from 1*s.* 4*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.* per lb. for English, and 1*s.* 4*d.* for foreign.

ARGOL.—The exports from Cape Colony during December 1905 amounted to 20,561 lbs. (314*l.*), against 44,942 lbs. (773*l.*) in November and 22,373 lbs. (430*l.*) in October 1905. The exports from the Italian Continent from October 1, 1904, to September 30, 1905, comprised 548 tons half-refined argol, 3,201 tons vinaccia argol, 2,926 tons crude argol, and 5,421 tons wine lees, making a grand total of 12,096 tons, valued at 385,400*l.*

ARROWROOT.—At auction prices were steady, small sales of St. Vincent in barrels being made at 2*d.* per lb. for good manufacturing.

BROMIDES.—The position still remains anomalous, makers confining their business to extremely small quantities to their regular customers at about 9*d.* per lb. for potassium. Some quantity of American has been placed for shipment at 8*d.*

per lb. net, c.i.f. terms, but at this price it is not guaranteed B.P., and on the spot about 9d. is quoted.

CAFFEINE.—Pure B.P. crystals are quoted 9s. 9d., and B.P. citrate at 7s. per lb.

CODEINE.—The British makers announce a reduction of 6d. per oz. as from Friday (February 16), and now quote pure crystals at from 8s. 8d. to 8s. 11d., hydrochloride 7s. 8d. to 7s. 11d., sulphate 7s. 8d. to 7s. 11d., and phosphate 6s. 10d. to 7s. 1d. per oz., according to quantity.

GLYCERIN is unaltered with a fair demand both for prompt and forward delivery.

LEAD ACETATE.—There is a good demand, and prices are firm at the recent advance. Spot stocks are by no means large, and in some instances makers are behind with deliveries.

MORPHINE.—In consequence of the drop in opium British makers of morphine salts have reduced their prices by 3d. per oz. as from Friday (February 16), quoting acetate at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., hydrochloride powder 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., and crystals 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per oz., according to quantity.

OIL, CASSIA.—Privately 3s. 7d. to 3s. 8d. spot is quoted for 80 to 85 per cent. c.a.

OIL, CASTOR.—Easier. Hull make for prompt delivery quoted 27l. 5s. per ton for firsts, and March to September 27l. 10s. for firsts and 25l. 10s. for seconds, barrels included, delivered free, ex wharf London.

OIL, COD-LIVER. is unaltered, agents quoting from 62s. to 65s. per barrel, c.i.f., according to quality, the higher figure applying to finest new non-freezing Lofoten oil. Spot oil at the moment seems scarce. In auction 200 cases of brown Japan cod-liver oil were offered, but no bid was elicited.

An advice from Bergen, dated February 13, reports a firmer market, but, in spite of higher prices offered by some of the refiners, no transactions have taken place. Producers will not sell at a loss, and as they have been obliged to pay higher prices for liver, they expect refiners to follow.

Another advice from Norway, dated February 12, states that the number of fishing-boats at work has now considerably increased. There appears to be plenty of fish under the coast, but the stormy weather has been a great hindrance for fishing on a large scale. The livers are still very fat, but in spite of this the prices of livers in some of the fishing districts have risen a little. In Lofoten and the neighbourhood the catch up to date has been: 4,400,000 cod, yielding 4,835 hectol. steam-refined oil, and 2,001 hectol. liver set aside for other kinds. At the same time last year practically nothing had been caught.

OIL, LEMON. remains firm at from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f., according to brand.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—A good business has lately been done from English distillers, and in several instances they are reported to be sold out. Stocks are, therefore, mostly in dealers' hands, from which source 32s. per lb. is quoted for finest. Reports to hand by mail from the United States confirm the damage to the peppermint roots by frost, and growers in the West are consequently higher in their ideas of value. Little impression has, however, been made on this side as, of course, the next crop is from five to six months off. Pure Wayne County is quoted in London at 10s. 4d., c.i.f., and 10s. 6d. on the spot, and for a special brand 12s. 6d. is wanted. H.G.H. is quoted 13s. 9d. to 14s. spot, and Japanese dementholised (Kobayashi) at 4s. 1½d., spot. In auction 10 cases Japanese dementholised oil (Yazawa) were bought in at 4s. 3d., and 10 cases (Kobayashi) at 4s. 4d., a suggestion of 4s. meeting with no response.

OIL, WOOD.—Hankow is quoted 32s. 6d. per cwt., spot.

OPUM.—Steady, with a small business in druggists' qualities at from 8s. to 8s. 6d. per lb., and for extra fine soft shipping up to 13s. has been paid. Persian is now becoming scarce on the spot, and is firmly held at 20s. per lb.

PHENACETIN is quoted at from 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity.

QUICKSILVER.—Importers' price is unaltered at 7l. 7s. 6d. per bottle, and in second-hands 7l. 7s. is quoted.

QUININE.—In view of the large bark sale at Amsterdam to-day, very little speculative business has been done. At the close of last week, however, a few small sales of German sulphate in bulk were made at 8¾d. per oz., spot, but there are few sellers. In auction 2 cases (800 oz.) of Java quinine sold at 8½d. per oz.

SHELLAC is steady with a fair spot demand, ordinary matted to fine free Orange TN being quoted from 192s. 6d. to 200s. per cwt.; fine Orange descriptions are worth from 210s. to 215s., and AC Garnet 215s., spot, and GAL 175s. There have been good sales in *Buttons* of the lower qualities at from 120s. to 140s. per cwt. For arrival the sales include 100 cases TN at 199s., c.i.f. Continent, for February-March shipment. Futures have been steady but quiet, including sales of 300 cases TN for March at 201s., and May 204s.

Soy is dull of sale at from 1s. to 1s. 4d. per gal.

SPICES.—At auction 94 packages Jamaica *Ginger* were bought in at from 41s. to 55s.; fair washed rough Cochín, slightly wormy, was bought in at 32s.; and about 100 packages good brown Calicut rough had been sold previous to the sale. Privately rough Calicut has been sold at 27s. 6d. to 28s., and small and medium native cut at from 44s. to 46s. At auction Singapore *Pepper* was bought in at 5½d. for fair and 5¼d. for Alleppy; for arrival the market for Singapore is flat and lower, with sellers of January-March shipment at 5d.; fine bold *White* Singapore, in cases, at auction was bought in at 10½d., fair to good, in bags, at 7½d. to 7½d., and fine at 8d. to 8½d.; the market privately for arrival was firmer on Wednesday. *Pimento* sold at easier prices, fair mixed with a few blacks at 2½d., and grey at 2½d. per lb. *Nutmegs* at auction were firm at the advance of 2d. to 3d. paid privately, owing to the crop shortage in both the East and West Indies. *Mace* is also firm, with little offered. Good West Indian is quoted 2s. to 2s. 4d., fair 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d., and ordinary 1s. 6d. per lb. Fair Zanzibar *Chillies* were bought in at 33s. 6d.; a few bags Nyasaland sold at from 34s. to 35s., and 10 bags Mombasa at 29s. Ceylon *Coriander* (121 bags) country damaged were bought in at 16s., and 24 packages Ceylon *Cinnamon* cuttings and featherings sold at 5½d.; fair Amboyna *Cloves* were bought in at 11d. for good fair. At the close of last week and on Monday about 3,000 bales Zanzibar changed hands for delivery at higher prices, including January-March at 5½d. to 6d., March-May 5½d., and June-August 5½d. to 5½d., but, in the absence of further speculative business, quotations became nominal, there being sellers on Wednesday, at 5½d. for January-March, 5½d. for March-May, and 5½d. for June-August, but 6s.-day June-August sold at 5½d.

STAR ANISEED OIL.—In auction 15 cases were firmly held at 5s. 6d. per lb.; this price has been paid privately.

TURMERIC.—Sales of good bright Madras finger have been made at up to 25s. per cwt., being dearer, and Cochín split bulbs have sold up to 8s.

London Drug-auctions.

The auctions to-day consisted of new and old drugs, for which there was a fair demand. Cape aloes met with competition at an advance of about 6d. For a large offering of asafetida (mostly sea-damaged) an advance of 7s. to 10s. was paid. *Areca* nuts are easier owing to arrivals and annatto seed is dull of sale. *Buchu* leaves are ½d. firmer and in fair demand. *Copaiba* is easy. For Sumatra benzoin steady prices were paid. A nice parcel of Spanish colocynth partly sold at lower rates. No material alteration was shown in cardamoms; decorticated seed is firm and in good demand privately. Ceylon coca leaves are easier and in good supply. Japanese refined camphor is firm but unchanged. Several lots of calumba sold at rather easier rates. *Cannabis indica* has advanced slightly. *Dragon's blood* is unaltered. *Ergot* is lower under forced sales. *Gamboge* sold at firm but irregular prices. Large sales of New Zealand honey were made without reserve. *Ipecacuanha* is dull of sale but unaltered. *Jalap* is more inquired for. *Kino* is dull. *Menthol* sold at a considerable decline without reserve. *Myrrh* is fairly held. *Eucalyptus* oil is quiet. *Orange peel* is in excessive supply at easy prices. *Rhubarb* is steady. Grey Jamaica sarsaparilla is at famine prices. The offerings of *senia* were unimportant. *Beeswax*, generally, quiet and easier. Japanese wax, however, is

lower. The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold, private sales being denoted by an asterisk :

Offered Sold		Offered Sold	
Accroides	42 ... 0	Kola	12 ... 2
Aloes—		Liquorice-juice ...	22 ... 12
Cape	76 ... 76	Menthol	40 ... 30
Curaçao (gourds) ...	50 ... 0	Musk-seed	1 ... 0
Socotrine	15 ... *10	Myrrh	72 ... 1
Ambergris (tins) ...	1 ... 0	Nux vomica	73 ... 0
Aniseed	14 ... 0	Oil—	
Annatto-seed	32 ... 2	anise, star	15 ... 0
Antimony	35 ... 0	bay	1 ... 0
Araoba	29 ... 0	bergamot (cprs.) ...	2 ... 0
Arca	65 ... 20	cassia	10 ... 0
Asafetida	528 ... 477	cinnamon-leaf ...	4 ... 0
Bael fruit	5 ... 0	clove	2 ... 2
Balsam—		cod-liver (Jap. ...)	
Copaiba	2 ... 2	(cs.) 200 ... 0	
Peru	3 ... 0	eucalyptus	77 ... 0
Tolu	5 ... 1	lemongrass	52 ... 0
Benzoin—		lime	2 ... 2
Palembang	30 ... 4	patechouli	5 ... 0
Siam	13 ... 2	peppermint	20 ... 0
Sumatra	133 ... 26	Olibanum	18 ... 3
Buchu	69 ... 28	Orange-peel	60 ... 2
Calumba	146 ... 146	Orris	22 ... 0
Camphor—		Papain	3 ... 0
Jap. ref.	31 ... 0	Patchouli	14 ... 6
Flowers	10 ... 3	Quillaia	65 ... 0
Cannabis indica ...	19 ... *4	Quinine (Java) (oz.)	800 ... 800
Cardamoms	154 ... 58	Rhatany	38 ... 0
Cascarilla	8 ... 0	Rhubarb—	
Chillies (Zan.) ...	13 ... 0	China	58 ... 12
Chiretta	6 ... 0	English	16 ... 16
Cinchona	14 ... 0	Safron	48 ... 48
Civet	5 ... 3	Sage	19 ... 0
Coca-leaves—		Sandalwood chips ...	25 ... 25
Ceylon	54 ... 17	Sarsaparilla (native)	12 ... 12
Cochineal	15 ... 0	Scabiac	8 ... 8
Colocynth (Span) ...	20 ... 7	Senna	
Coriander-seed ...	98 ... 0	Alexandrian	
Croton-seed	16 ... 0	(pods) 8 ... 0	
Cubebs	8 ... 8	Tinnevely	52 ... 10
Cumin-seed	11 ... 0	Squill	16 ... 0
Cuttle-bone	101 ... 11	Sticklac	27 ... 27
Dragon's-blood ...	22 ... 1	Strophanthus	25 ... 0
Egg-yolk	95 ... 0	Styrax	1 ... 0
Elemi	19 ... 0	Tamarinds	189 ... 99
Ergot	37 ... 15	Tonka beans	6 ... 0
Euphorbium	41 ... 0	Turmeric	135 ... 0
Galls (China)	2 ... 2	Wax (bees)—	
Gamboge	6 ... 4	Aden	23 ... 0
Gum arabic (Aust.)	1 ... 1	Australian	4 ... 0
Honey—		Cape	5 ... 0
Honolulu	3 ... 3	East Indian	74 ... 5
Jamaica	64 ... 11	Grenada	1 ... 1
New Zealand		Italian	4 ... *4
(cs.) 200 ... 300		Jamaica	15 ... 6
Iciquiba-nuts	6 ... 0	Madagascar	6 ... 6
Insect-flowers	20 ... 0	Mombasa	72 ... 0
Ipecacuanha—		Morocco	24 ... 0
Cartagena	13 ... 5	Spanish	4 ... 0
Rio (Matto Grosso) ...	19 ... 2	St. Vincent	1 ... 0
Rio (Minas)	3 ... 0	Zanzibar	106 ... 11
Jalap	3 ... 3	Wax (Japanese) ...	18 ... 8
Kino	31 ... 2	Zedoary-root	57 ... 0

ALOES.—Practically all the offerings of Cape aloes were sold at an advance of about 6d. per cwt. on last prices. Good bright hard firsts brought from 27s. to 27s. 6d.; fair bright ditto, 25s. to 26s.; good seconds, 24s. to 24s. 6d.; and common drossy and dull, 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. per cwt. Curaçao remains scarce; fifty gourds of fair Cape were offered, a bid of 30s. being refused. Good hard hepatic Socotrine, in kegs, are held for 80s., and ten kegs had been sold privately at 75s.

The exports of aloes from Cape Colony during December amounted to 4,119 lb. (247.), against 83,019 lb. (5977.) in November and 55,052 lb. (3657.) in October 1905.

ANNATTO.—Dull of sale; 9 bags Ceylon sold at 5½d. for bricky; good Madras was held for 6d.

ARECA.—Rather cheaper, 20 bags of small to bold, slightly wormy, selling at 22s. 6d. per cwt. Extra bold, slightly wormy, from Zanzibar were bought in at 25s.

ASAfetida.—Recent arrivals from Persian Gulf met with competition at an advance of from 7s. to 10s. on previous prices. Most of the gum was sea-damaged, the vessel having put in at Cardiff, from which port the asafetida was transhipped to London in colliers and with-

out proper protection. A few cases of slightly coagulated tears in tins sold at 75s., and for slightly heavy almondy block 45s. to 50s. was paid. The bulk, however, sold at from 35s. up to 43s. for sea-damaged block down to liquid gum: over 500 packages were sold.

BALSAM, COPAIBA.—Good bright clear to opaque Maranham sold at 1s. 5d. per lb. subject.

BENZONIN.—Steady. Some 8 cases good almondy Sumatra seconds with small almonds, slightly false packed ends, sold at 8½., and for 20 cases ordinary thirds 5½. 10s. was paid. Two cases Siam sold at 7½. to 8½. 7s. 6d. for siftings in brown crumbly block, and for 4 cases Palembang firsts, referred to on p. 278 of our Trade report, 50s. was paid. Another lot of Palembang in small tins was bought in at 48s.

BUCHU brought rather firmer prices. Fair to good green round leaf sold at 8d. per lb.; and for a lot of 10 bales, all more or less stalky, yellow, 6d. was paid.

CALUMEA.—A lot of 48 bags medium to bold yellow washed sold cheaply at 20s. 6d. per cwt., and for a further 53 bags mouldy and damaged sorts from 11s. to 17s. was paid.

CAMPHOR.—Eleven cases of good white flowers offered, of which a few sold at 3s. 5d. per lb., no discount. Japanese tablets (¼-oz.) were firmly held at 3s. 9d., 1-oz. and ½-oz. at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d., no discount. Privately Japanese refined (near at hand) has been sold at 3s. 6d., c.i.f.

CANNABIS INDICA.—The holders have raised their price to 4s. 4d. per lb. for ordinary tops; 4 cases had been placed previous to auction.

CARDAMOMS were in small supply, and brought unaltered rates. Decorticated seed was firm, and sold in quantity privately at 1s. for Bombay description. Ceylon-Mysore, bold smooth dullish, 1s. 7d.; fair to good pale round, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.; good medium pale, 1s. 1d.; small and medium pale, 9d. to 10½d.; good splits, 11d. to 11½d.; brown and split, 8½d. to 9d. per lb.

CIVET.—Three horns brought 7s. 6d. per oz.

COCA-LEAVES.—Easier, owing to fair supplies. Fifteen cases of good green Ceylon sold at from 11d. to 1s. per lb., and two cases of *dust* at 6d.; a further 16 packages of good green were also held at 1s.

COLOCYNTH.—Lower. A new parcel of 20 cases Spanish apple offered, of which 7 cases sold cheaply at 10d. per lb. for good pale apple.

CROTON SEED.—Fair mixed can be had at 35s. per cwt.

CUTTLE-BONE partly sold at 2d. per lb. for small pale bright bone, *via* Marseilles. For 6 cases of common dirty and damp East Indian ½d. per lb. was paid. "if pay charges." Extra bold pale was taken out without mention of price.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—A case of very mixed and false-packed lump sold, without reserve, at 7½. per cwt. Several desirable lots were offered, including fair to good bright seedy lump, for which bids of from 7½. 12s. 6d. to 8½. 10s. were refused.

ERGOT was lower in auction, 15 bags of fair sound greyish Russian selling at from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. Good sound grey Spanish was limited at 1s. 10d.

GALLS.—Privately business has been done in China galls at 52s. per cwt., c.i.f.

GAMBOGE.—A case of good bright damp unsorted Siam pipe, partly blocky, had been sold privately; and for a further case of similar quality 23½. was wanted. Five other cases were offered, of which a case of fair Siam, part drossy, sold at 17½. subject, and a case of bright but water-damaged at 17½. 2s. 6d.

HONEY.—Jamaica was mostly bought in, being held above buyers' ideas. However, 23 packages were sold at from 17s. 6d. to 18s. for pale yellow to brown setting; for a cask of brown setting 16s. was paid. Nice pale set Jamaica, in cases, was bought in at 28s., the highest bid obtainable being 21s.; for good amber liquid 22s. was refused. A pile of 300 cases of New Zealand honey sold without reserve at from 27s. to 28s. per cwt. for good pale pasty and set. For 3 cases of thick brown Honolulu 14s. 6d. per cwt. was paid.

IPECACUANHA was dull of sale. Practically no sound Matto Grosso changed hands in auction, although a fair selection was offered. The buying-in prices ranged from 6s. 4d. to

6s. 6d., according to quality. Two bales of sea and grease damaged Matto Grosso realised from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d., without reserve. For good Minas 6s. was wanted. Of Cartagena 13 bags were offered, and 5 sold at 6s. per lb. for fair grey and 5s. 9d. for dull grey. Johore is, privately, still held for 7s.

JALAP.—There is more inquiry privately, and stocks are now much reduced. In auction 3 bales containing 11.3 per cent. of resin sold at 5d. per lb.

KINO.—Fair, slightly blocky Cochin grain was held at 11d., and 2 cases common dull reddish and blocky sold, without reserve, at 3½d. per lb.

KOLA.—Twelve packages of fair West Indian brought from 3¼d. to 3½d. per lb.

MENTHOL.—Lower. In auction 10 cases Kobayashi crystals of fair colour sold without reserve at from 7s. 5d. to 7s. 8d. per lb., being a reduction of 4d. to 6d. on the prices asked privately; for a further 5 cases Kobayashi (not without reserve) 7s. 5d. was paid, and for 20 cases Suzuki menthol from 7s. 1d. to 7s. 2d. was paid without reserve.

MYRRH.—Good pale picked was limited at 7l.; fair sorts, rather dusty, were bought in 100s., and pickings at 5l. 5s.; a bag of bold siftings realised 95s. per cwt.

NUX VOMICA.—Fine bright bold silky seed from Aleppy were limited at 10s. 6d. for 52 bags, and for a further lot of smaller from Bimlipatam 8s. 6d. was wanted.

OIL, CLOVE.—Two cases (83 to 85 per cent. eugenol) sold at 3s. 5d. per lb.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Guaranteed B.P. (cineol 75.3 per cent.) was limited at 1s. 1½d.

OIL, LIME.—Scarce at auction, only 2 cases being offered, for which 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. was paid for West Indian distilled.

OIL, PATCHOULI.—Fisher's brand was held at 11½d. per oz.

ORANGE-PEEL.—In large supply but neglected, the finest lots of thin strip being held for 8d. per lb. A few sales were made at 7d. per lb.

ORRIS.—Dull Florentine sorts were offered at 32s. 6d. per cwt., and for fair Verona 20s. was wanted.

RHUBARB.—Small sales were made at steady prices, including two cases of round Canton trimming root with three-quarters fair pinky fracture at 1s. 4d., and 1 case of medium flat Canton with three-quarters good colour at 1s. 3d., subject. Of High-dried 2 cases only sold at 1s. 2d. for medium to bold flat with three-quarters fair pinky fracture, being steady. For a case of bold to extra bold flat Shensi with three-quarters fine pinky fracture 2s. 9d. per lb. subject was paid. For bold flat dull coat with pale pinky fracture 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. was paid. An odd parcel of 3 cases medium and bold round and flat Canton with half pinky and half grey and dark fracture, dull coated, sold at 1s. per lb. Sixteen packages English rhubarb sold without reserve at from 3d. to 5d., the higher price being paid for medium to bold round with three-quarters fair pinky colour.

SAFROL.—Forty-eight cases sold without reserve at 11½d. per lb.

SANDALWOOD CHIPS sold without reserve at 6l. 2s. 6d. per ton.

SARSAPARILLA.—Much dearer. Twelve bales of native Jamaica—all that was offered—sold at from 10d. to 11d. per lb. for pale yellow to red, partly sea-damaged. Privately there is an extreme scarcity of genuine grey Jamaica sarsaparilla, and as much as 2s. is asked for it. There appears to be practically no Lima Jamaica on offer.

SCABLAC.—Eight bags of small dusty Madras sold at 6l. 15s.

SENA.—The small offerings of Tinnevely were mostly from second-hands. A few bales of good green colour sold at 2¾d., and for 5 bales fair greenish 1½d. was paid. Two bales Tinnevely pods realised 1d., and dark Alexandrian pods were bought in at 7d.

STICKLAC.—Good free dusty from Rangoon brought from 5l. 7s. 6d. to 5l. 10s. per cwt.

STROPHANTHUS.—Several parcels of good green Kombe were held at 2s. 9d. per lb.

TAMARINDS.—A large quantity of East Indian sold with-

out reserve, with all faults, at 1s. per cwt. "if pay charges." For common dry stony West Indian 13s. 6d. was paid.

WAX, BEES'.—Jamaica wax, of which 18 packages were offered, mostly sold at from 7l. 10s. to 7l. 12s. 6d. for ordinary to fair, being unaltered, and a barrel of fair bright Grenada also realised 7l. 12s. 6d. Fine Mogador was limited at 6l. per cwt., and for 83 blocks of good Zanzibar the high figure of 7l. was wanted, but several parcels were sold at 6l. 15s., at which price a pile of Mombasa of good orange colour, slightly drossy, was held. Five cases of good Madras realised 6l. 2s. 6d. per cwt., and good pale Aden, part slightly dark, is limited at 5l. 15s. Six packages fair yellow Madagascar sold at 6l. 5s.

WAX, JAPAN.—In auction part of the parcel offered had been sold at 57s. 6d. for yellowish squares. This is now the price asked privately, being lower.

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, February 14:—The catch of cod up to date now amounts to 4,500,000, with a yield of 4,220 barrels of oil.

SMYRNA, February 14:—The sales of opium for the week ending Wednesday amount to 260 cases at a reduction of 4d. per lb., but the market is now firmer.

HAMBURG, February 15:—Refined camphor is firmer at 800m. per 100 kilos. Ergot, for forward delivery, is lower at 290m. per 100 kilos. Norwegian cod-liver oil is also lower. Carnauba wax is firmer.

NEW YORK, February 15:—The drug-market is active. Druggists' opium in single cases is easy at \$2.90 per lb., having dropped 5c. on the week. German quinine has advanced a further 1c. to 18c. per oz. Menthol at \$2.20 is weak. Peppermint oil in bulk is now quoted at \$2.50, and is advancing. Russian ergot is weak at 37c. Rio inecacuanha is easier at \$1.50 per lb., this price being a decline of 10c. on last week's quotation. Ceylon citronella oil is strongly held at 40c. per lb. Hydrastis (golden seal) is scarce and is now quoted at \$1.20 per lb.

AMSTERDAM, February 15:—At the auctions of cinchona held here to-day 12,258 packages were offered, weighing 1,125,617 kilos, and containing 62,426 kilos. of quinine sulphate. Of the above quantity 11,257 packages sold at an average unit of 4.37c. per half-kilo., compared with 4c. per half-kilo. paid at the auctions on January 11. The following were the approximate quantities of quinine purchased by the principal buyers: (1) The English and American factories, who bought the equivalent of 11,054 kilos.; (2) the Brunswick factory, 8,274 kilos.; (3) the Mannheim factory, 6,940 kilos.; (4) the Amsterdam factory, 1,899 kilos.; (5) the Frankfurt and Stuttgart factories, 6,026 kilos.; (6) various buyers, 23,868 kilos. The lowest price paid for the manufacturing bark was 4½c. per half-kilo., and the highest 48½c. per half-kilo., while the lowest price paid for pharmaceutical bark was 8c., the highest being 38½c. The coca-leaves sold at from 32½c. to 44c.

Palembang Benzoin.

At the Crutched Friars drug-warehouse on Wednesday considerable interest was taken in a parcel of four cases Palembang benzoin to be offered at the sale to-day (Thursday). The lot in question had been washed up by the sea off the Cape of Good Hope, and is identical with a parcel that was offered in the public sale at the Corn Exchange sale-rooms in March 1886, a specimen of which now exists in the Crutched Friars Museum. This specimen is labelled "recovered from a wreck off the Cape supposed to have occurred 200 years ago. Seaweed was found growing upon the blocks when found." In 1886 we gave full and authentic particulars of the circumstances under which over a ton of this gum was recovered from the sea. It appeared that two of the packing cases which were found embedded under the sand bore the date "1691," and in the light of historical evidence which we gave at the time the date was proved to be correct. The gum offered to-day was in marbled blocks of dark colour, having a fair aroma, and sold at 50s. per cwt.

Java Quinine-auctions.

The following are the dates on which the quinine-auctions will be held at Batavia: February 21, March 28, May 9, June 13, July 18, August 29, October 3, November 14, and December 19.

PLASMON, LTD., call attention in our advertising-columns to a window-dressing competition they are organising.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE Council met in the Society's House, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, January 7. The President (Dr. Walsh) presided, and the other members who attended were Messrs. George D. Beggs, J. E. Connor, W. Doig, C. P. Fairweather, H. V. Goldon, W. Jamison, James Michie, T. N. Moffitt, John Smith, D. M. Watson, W. F. Wells, and P. N. White.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following letter from Mr. W. Vincent Johnston, addressed to the President and members of the Council, was read :

GENTLEMEN,—Kindly accept my resignation as member of the Council, as it is my intention to offer myself as candidate at the forthcoming election as examiner in pharmacy. Regretting my severance from your Board, but hope to join it at a later date.

The PRESIDENT said they were sorry to lose Mr. Johnston's services, and moved a vote of thanks to him.

Mr. BEGGS, in seconding, said he hardly liked the tone of Mr. Johnston's letter. He (Mr. Beggs) was one of those who had always thought that it was not right for any member of the Council to make his position on it a stepping-stone to obtaining a position of emolument from the Council.

Mr. CONNOR did not agree with Mr. Beggs, and thought his remark was rather unfair, and calculated to prevent men from coming to take part in the business of the Society. They had no proof that Mr. Johnston had taken part in the business of the Society for such a purpose.

Mr. BEGGS : Mr. Johnston has already been an examiner, and I think he was on the Council previous to that. He threw up the post of examiner and joined the Council; and now that there is another vacancy he throws up his membership again.

Mr. MICHIE : I don't think we should enter into a discussion of this sort. The only question before us is the acceptance of Mr. Johnston's resignation. When the matter comes before us again we can discuss it.

The motion was agreed to *nem. con.*

The PRESIDENT said a letter had come from Mr. Brittain, of Drogheda, resigning membership of the Council, as he is giving up the business of a pharmaceutical chemist. The letter arrived too late for the present meeting, and would come up next month.

A letter from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies enclosed a copy of an Ordinance of the Transvaal to amend the Medical, Dental, and Pharmacy Ordinance of 1904.

FINES REDUCED.

A letter from the Assistant Under-Secretary of the Irish Privy Council intimated that the Lords Justices had reduced two fines of 5*l.* each imposed upon Mr. Joseph J. Haughton, of Ferns, to 2*l.* each.

The PRESIDENT : At the last meeting of the Council it was ordered that Mr. Wells and myself should address a letter to the Castle giving weighty reasons why the fines should not be reduced. Two days afterwards, however, word came to us that the fines had been reduced. Whether our letter received any consideration or not, the result is not in accordance with the wishes that we expressed.

Mr. WELLS : It is a long time since the Castle authorities reduced any penalties. There is only one excuse for it now, and that is, that they were in the middle of an election, and were throwing sprats out to catch a salmon. It was really a very bad case, and one in which they should not have reduced the penalties. If they persist in going on in that way we shall have to do as we did before—write to them telling them that we will give up the prosecutions.

A member asked how much the Council would lose in the matter.

Mr. WELLS : About 10*l.* We had to send down a solicitor; and I had to go down, and Mr. Jardin the chemist.

THE SECRETARY IS COURTEOUS.

A letter was received from Dr. John Reid withdrawing a charge of discourtesy which he had made against the

Registrar, Mr. Ferrall, and acknowledging that Mr. Ferrall's action in the matter was perfectly correct. Dr. Reid stated that at the time he made the charge he was not aware that his name was not on the Apothecaries' Hall register.

ANOTHER APPEAL FOR REDUCTION.

A letter from Dublin Castle enclosed for observations from the Council a copy of a memorial which the Lords Justices had received from Mr. James V. Nevin, Dungarvan, asking for the remission of two fines of 5*l.* each which had been imposed on him by the Magistrates there for an illegal sale of poison. The memorialist stated that though he had not a qualification under the Irish Pharmacy Act, he possessed a qualification which entitled him to compound and sell medicines in England. He had been for six years and a half a dispenser of medicines in a dispensary in Bristol. He had in Ferns at the time of the sale which was the subject of the prosecution an assistant who was a duly qualified registered druggist; and if he had not believed that he was entitled to sell with such an assistant he would not have attempted to do so. He submitted that his act was the result of a mistaken view of the law; and he added that he was not in good circumstances.

Mr. WELLS : He has no legal qualification in England.

The PRESIDENT : We wrote to the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to know if his name is on the register of chemists and druggists of England, and we were informed that it is not. He tries to make capital out of the fact that he employed a registered druggist; but that man has left him, and he has not since had a qualified man in his place. Furthermore, we got a prescription compounded there on the very day that we got the memorial from the Castle.

Mr. WELLS : I propose that the President be authorised to draft a reply to the memorial, and also to remonstrate with the Castle authorities about the other case, and to point out that if they insist on reducing penalties we must leave prosecutions alone.

Mr. FAIRWEATHER seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

A letter from the Secretary of the Committee of Trustees of the

FAIRCHILD SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES.

enclosed copies of the syllabus for 1906. The PRESIDENT said these deserved to be circulated as widely as possible. The scholarship and prizes which were offered involved something of an intermediate examination for students during their four years' service.

Mr. MICHIE : What is the value of the scholarship?

The PRESIDENT : One scholarship of 50*l.*, and four prizes of 5*l.* each.

Mr. WELLS : It is all an examination by papers. The candidates must be between the ages of 20 and 22.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The PRESIDENT said a certificate had come to hand of the death of Mr. Thomas Augustine Furlong, an old member of the Society who had been looked up to with esteem by everyone who knew him. It was only right that they should pass a vote of condolence with the members of his family, and he begged to move it. Mr. Beggs seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

A donation of seven pamphlets was received from the Smithsonian Institute, and thanks were voted to the donors.

Returns from the examiners showed that at the last Preliminary examination 18 candidates offered themselves, of whom 4 passed, one of these with honours; that at the examination for the Licence 25 candidates were examined, of whom 7 passed; and that at the Registered Druggists' examination 9 candidates offered themselves, of whom 5 passed.

A report of a committee contained recommendations for the alteration in certain respects of the subjects and markings at the examinations which had been made in pursuance of suggestions from Sir John W. Moore, the Lord Lieu-

tenant's Visitor. The consideration of these was deferred to the next meeting.

The PRESIDENT moved that in future, whenever the third day of the examination for the Licence should fall on a Friday which happened to be Good Friday, the examination should commence on the preceding Tuesday. This was unanimously agreed to.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society, on the motion of the HON. TREASURER, seconded by Mr. WELLS: Mr. H. Harrison, Ph.C., Dromore, co. Down, and Mr. J. B. Morris, Ph.C., George's Street, Templemore.

The following were nominated for membership: Mr. J. S. Anderson, Ph.C., 47 Market Square, Lisburn; Mr. T. J. Carroll, Ph.C., Medical Hall, Kilmallock; Mr. C. Crowley, Ph.C., 33 Denny Street, Tralee; Mr. J. C. O'Farrell, Ph.C., 81 Morehampton Road, Dublin.

Nominated for Associate Druggistship: Mr. T. A. Shircliffe, R.D., Ogle Street, Armagh.

The Council then adjourned.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.
Northern District Chemists' Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

Cape Colony.

THE GENERAL DEPRESSION prevailing throughout South Africa made itself felt in drug-circles, and the displays of holiday goods at Christmas somehow or other did not seem to be so attractive as in past years.

DRUGS AT THE CAPE.—In his report for the quarter ended June 30, 1905 (published at Cape Town December 21, 1905), Mr. C. F. Juritz, the senior analyst, states that he examined under the Sale of Food and Drugs and Seeds Act, 1890, among other things, one sample of compound rhubarb powder and two of curry powder. The latter were genuine, but the compound rhubarb powder was found to contain 37 per cent. of magnesium carbonate.

THE RAILWAY CONTRACTS.—Messrs. C. E. Gardner & Co., Ltd., Port Elizabeth, have again secured the contract for the supply of drugs, sundries, etc., to the Cape Government Railways (Midland and Northern systems). The contract for the Western System has been divided for the year; Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., Cape Town, hold that for drugs and sundries, while Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co., Cape Town, are to supply B. W. & Co.'s goods and patents. In splitting the contract the C.G.R. has departed from former methods of appointing contractors, and it is understood that it is not very satisfactory to the contractors to be awarded portions of a contract.

FOREIGN TRADE IN DECEMBER.—Among the imports in December were the following: Articles of food and drink, 405,552*l.*; raw materials, 122,215*l.*; and manufactured articles, 946,739*l.* (November, 947,204*l.*). This amount included 26,984*l.* worth of drugs, chemicals, and dye-stuffs, against 21,021*l.* in November and 26,086*l.* in October 1905. The grand total of imports during December amounted to 3,561,811*l.*, including raw gold from the Transvaal valued at 1,601,235*l.* The exports during December were 3,484,864*l.*, against 3,933,134*l.* in November 1905. The United Kingdom is credited with 51 per cent. of the imports, the total for the British Empire being 82.4 per cent., and of the exports (other than gold or diamonds) the British Empire received 84.7 per cent.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR IMPORTERS.—A copy of the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of January 2 last contains a Customs notice issued by the Controller of

Customs on December 29, 1905, drawing the attention, more especially of persons or firms dealing in goods imported into the Colony, to Section 3 of Act No. 5 of 1905. The present notice states that under the above section it is required that all persons carrying on any business in the colony shall keep reasonable and proper books or accounts of their transactions, and must be prepared to produce the bills of lading, invoices, and all other documents containing all particulars regarding imported and sold goods for inspection by Customs officers, under a penalty of 100*l.* The Controller of the Cape Customs adds that it is accordingly intended to institute, at an early date, a system of inspection, and that proceedings will be instituted against persons failing to comply with the provisions of the above-mentioned section.

Natal.

MR. SAM BOYD has opened a branch store at Harding.

MR. MARCHANT, who has been far from well for a considerable time, is at present recuperating on the north coast.

MALARIA does not seem to be abating in Durban, although the Corporation is using every means to keep down the mosquitoes by draining and by spraying paraffin oil.

THE NATAL PHARMACY BOARD met in Pietermaritzburg on January 11, but so far nothing has transpired as to what took place. Messrs. Marchant and Turner were not present.

THE DECEMBER TRADE figures regarding imports show a slight falling-off, being 1,006,502*l.*, against 1,147,586*l.* in November and 1,113,759*l.* in October. Drugs, chemicals, and dye-stuffs show an increase, however, being valued at 15,389*l.*, or 1,691*l.* more than in November; the total of exports was 806,835*l.*, of which 191,863*l.* was oversea. The proportion of British goods imported was 74.1 per cent.

Orange River Colony.

THE IMPORTS into the Colony during December amounted to 608,135*l.*, against 397,573*l.* in November. This amount was swelled by 345,800*l.* for specie, the actual value of merchandise imported being 258,431*l.* (120,655*l.* from Cape Colony), against 299,465*l.* in November. Of drugs, chemicals, and dye-stuffs, the imports from oversea were valued at 3,539*l.*, and a further 657*l.* was imported from other States in the Customs Union. Of the grand total of imports 92 per cent. was from the British Empire.

Rhodesia

DURING December the imports of drugs, chemicals, and dye-stuffs into Southern Rhodesia amounted to 3,592*l.*, and 29*l.* worth of similar goods was imported into North-Western Rhodesia.

A BETTER OUTLOOK.—A Bulawayo correspondent writes that the increased exports of gold, silver, and other minerals from the country during the year are indicative of a better outlook for the future. Agriculture during the past year had its own peculiar difficulties. Shortage of water was the chief trouble, and restrictions are still in force with regard to the transport of cattle. These restrictions are being enforced with a view to stamping out the disease known as African Coast fever, and would seem to be effectual, inasmuch as the disease has perceptibly diminished. With the recent advent of refreshing rains, somewhat long delayed, everyone looks to the current year with hope of increased prosperity.

Transvaal.

MR. H. BILLINGHAM has closed his pharmacy in Witbank, and has removed to Belfast, Transvaal. Belfast has had two medical men among its inhabitants for some time, but has never before possessed a chemist. For some years prior to the war Mr. Billingham carried on business in Middelburg, Transvaal.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—Mr. A. A. Bones, chemist and druggist, will shortly open two pharmacies in Pretoria. Mr. Bones, who has been in the employ of Mr. W. Raworth, Church Street, Pretoria, for the last four years, went out to South Africa during the Boer War, and saw a good deal of active service.—Mr. J. S. Sanderson, lately assistant in the Crow Pharmacy, has taken over the management of the Empire Pharmacy, Church Street, West Pretoria, of which Mr. W. Raworth is the proprietor.

A CHEMIST'S DEATH.—An inquest was held at Johannesburg on January 20 into the death of Mr. Arthur Young, chemist, Grant Avenue, Norwood, who was found dead in bed. Sergeant Brissoe deposed to finding the body in bed. Dr. Broddie, chief district surgeon for Johannesburg, said he had made a *post-mortem* examination, and had sent the contents of the stomach to the Government Laboratory for analytical purposes. He could not give the cause of death. The hearing was adjourned for the report of the Government analyst.

The monthly summary of trade during December shows a grand total of imports valued at 1,360,330*l.*, against 1,705,481*l.* in November. Included in this amount were direct imports from countries outside the Customs Union valued at 580,057*l.* Among the manufactured articles imported were drugs, chemicals, and dye-stuffs (not South African produce) valued at 41,182*l.*, and 638*l.* similar goods being South African produce. Exports of all goods amounted to 2,184,739*l.*, against 2,102,705*l.* in November 1905; 75 per cent. of the imports was obtained from the British Empire.

NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of this Society took place on January 18 at Durban. There were present Messrs. Anderson, Firth, Hamlin, Irving, Johnston (President), Morillon, Rees, Read, and Watts. Mr. S. K. Elgie (Vice-President), who sailed for England on January 18, wrote begging to be excused for his non-attendance during the remainder of the session.

The Principal Under-Secretary wrote, with reference to a resolution passed at a meeting of the Society in May relative to the examination for qualification as a chemist, stating that Government saw no reason for appointing a visiting officer, as at present the President of the Pharmacy Board attends at the examinations, and he would see that they were conducted in a proper manner.

The Secretary reported that he had had legal advice regarding Schedule B and the sections of the Act pertaining thereto—viz., Sections 37, 42, 35, and 36—and he was advised that no drugs, save the exceptions specified by name, may be sold by any storekeeper.

Mr. A. W. Ventham was elected a member of the Society.

The committee appointed to interview retailers of methylated spirit, in the hope that the price might be raised to 9*d.*, reported that they had been successful, and after January 1 every retailer put the price up to 9*d.* For some considerable time S.V.M. has been sold at the ridiculously low price of 6*d.* per reputed quart bottle.

TRANSVAAL PHARMACY BOARD.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held at Johannesburg on January 19, under the presidency of Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie, the other members present being Dr. van Niekerke, Messrs. R. Butters, B. O. Jones, J. R. Jones, and W. T. Skinn.

Replies were received from the medical superintendents of various mine-hospitals to the inquiries of the Board as to the means observed in these hospitals for the dispensing of medicines. It appeared from the letters received that with one exception, where the dispensing was done by a registered medical practitioner, the whole of the dispensing was undertaken by local registered chemists.

It was reported that certain firms which were being partly conducted by unregistered partners, who had been warned by the Board, had now taken steps to have their businesses reconstructed in order to comply with the law. The Secretary was instructed to see that this was done by the firms in question without undue delay.

The question of payment of members was again discussed, and a resolution was passed to the effect that members should be paid. Representatives were appointed to confer with the Medical Council on the subject with a view to taking joint action.

The following applications for registration were approved: Messrs. J. S. Sanderson (chemist and druggist, Transvaal), J. J. Manson, W. J. P. Sutherland, J. Rutherford, G. E. Couldery, D. W. Robb (all chemists and druggists with the British qualification).

Australasian News.

Communicated by the Australian Staff of "The Chemist and Druggist."

New South Wales.

TRAFFORD SELECT COMMITTEE.—The current number of "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia" contains in one narrative the story of Walter Trafford's life and his unsuccessful efforts to get registered in New South Wales. The narrative is taken from the report of the Select Committee of the N.S.W. Legislature that has been inquiring into the matter. We have not space to give even an outline of the story, but the opening paragraph is interesting to home readers. It refers to the Minor examination some years ago:

I was apprenticed to a chemist in Louth, and served my full term. I spent five years more in England, passed the Preliminary, studied, and went up for the Minor examination with all the hopes and fears and anxieties of that ordeal. I felt that I had gone through satisfactorily. I had dispensed all other tasks, including some suppositions. I was given an 8-oz. mixture to dispense. From among the bottles I picked one that I thought was an 8-oz. I made up the mixture, and after I had done so the examiner said, "Did you measure that bottle?" I said, "No." He said, "Turn it out, will you?" I said, "Yes." I measured it, and it measured 7 oz. I thought in spite of that I should have got through, but when I found that I had failed, I concluded that I had only failed on my last item. I felt that I failed by a trick, though, of course, the examiners might speak differently. I made no further attempt to pass the examination, but came out to Australia about 1885.

New Zealand.

A DECLARATION PROSECUTION.—Mr. John Fulton Neil, a well-known New Zealand chemist, has been tried at Dunedin on a charge of wilfully making a false declaration that his son John Gerrie Neil had served a three-year apprenticeship with him. An apprenticeship indenture sent to the Pharmacy Board was dated January 1, 1900, but the paper on which it was written had the watermark 1903. The declaration was based on this indenture. For the defence it was urged that defendant signed the declaration honestly believing it to be true, and taking this view the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

Victoria.

MELBOURNE PRICES.—The following table shows the maximum and minimum quantities of drugs and other articles sold for 6*d.*, and also the general quantity, as shown by the majority of thirty-six lists filled in by retailers for the South Suburban (Melbourne) Chemists' Association. It seems customary to give, say, 1 oz. for 3*d.*, 2 oz. for 6*d.*, 4 oz. for 1*s.* In a few cases the principle of, say, 1 oz. for 3*d.*, 3 oz. for 6*d.*, 8 oz. for 1*s.* obtains, but is not the rule. Quantities are in ounces except where otherwise specified.

Drug.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Quinine (gr.)	40	12	20		
Saffron (gr.)	45	15	20		
Precipitate (dr.)	4	1	2		
Liquorice co.	4	1	2		
Camphorated chalk	2	1	1½		
Potash permanganate	4	1½	2		
Boric acid	8	2½	4		
Ammonia	6	2	4		
Quassia	4	1½	2		
Gentian	3	1½	2		
Aloes	1½	½	¾		
Hiera piera	1	½	¾		
Gregory's powder	1	½	¾		
Magnesia	2	1	1		
Salts of lemon	2	½	1		
Oxalic acid	4	1	2		
Zinc sulph.	3	½	1		
Gum arabic	4	1	2		
Ateca	3	½	1		
Cubeba	2	½	1		
Sulphur	6	3	4		
Borax	6	2	4		
Potass. iod. (dr.)	2	1	2		
Potass. bicarb.	4	1	2		
Vaseline	4	1½	2		
* Indefinite mite.					
Cocconut oil	6	2	4		
Zinc ointment	2	1	1		
Scidlitz powders	6	4	4		
Pills, No.	15	8	8		
Linseed	24	16	16		
Glyce. borax	2	1	1		
Creosote (dr.)	4	2	2		
Oil cloves (dr.)	4	2	2		
Castor oil	4	1½	2		
Eucalyptus oil	3	1½	2		
Olive oil	3	1½	2		
Cod liver oil	3	1	2		
Camphorated oil	2½	1	1½		
Turpentine	2½	1	1½		
Benzine	2½	1	1½		
S. V. Rect.	2	1	1		
S. V. Meth.	16	4	10		
Glycerin	3	1½	2		
and rosewater	2	1½	2		
Hydrogen peroxide	2	1	1½		
Cascara extract	1	½	1		
Carbolic acid	1	3 dr.	1		
Lysol	2	1	1		
Tr. quin. am.	2	1½	1		
Herbs	1½	1	1		
Copaiba	1	½	1		

ASSISTANTS' HOURS.—The Factories and Shops Act Amendment Act has received Royal assent, and comes into operation on March 1. From that date the hours of chemists' assistants will be limited to sixty a week, unless representations are made successfully to secure their extension by regulation to some other period.

India and the East.

THE membership of the Japanese Pharmaceutical Association in 1905 was 1,507.

INTOXICATING DRUGS.—The Madras Government have, under the provisions of their Abkari Act, directed that (with effect from April 1, 1906) the duty on intoxicating drugs shall be levied at the following rates in lieu of those at present current: Charas, Rs. 6 per seer; ganja, Rs. 5 per seer; bhang, R. 1 per seer.

A FREE DISPENSARY.—The hospital for the native poor, suggested by several Penang doctors (*C. & D.*, January 20, p. 76), is a form of philanthropy which is very rare in the East, and it has not found unanimous favour with the local medicos. The venture is hardly likely to do the chemist any good, but the promoters would doubtless argue that in course of time the local dispensaries would reap a benefit.

ANTI-COCAINE.—The latest attempt on the part of the Government to stifle the illegal sale and use of cocaine is a notice issued at Calcutta and addressed to holders of cocaine-licences, warning them that they must not export cocaine to anyone outside Calcutta without the permission of the collector of the district where the intending purchaser resides. The Bombay and Madras Governments are certain to follow this lead.

JAPANESE CASUALTIES.—The following figures as to the casualties in the Russo-Japanese war have been supplied by the Japanese military medical authorities: Killed in action or died of wounds, 43,219; wounded in action, 153,673; missing, 5,081; injured (not in action), 16,456; sick (ordinary diseases) 203,270, (contagious diseases) 17,866; sent from the field to hospitals in Japan, 281,587; recovered and resumed their places in the ranks, 60,000.

JAPANESE PATENT-MEDICINE EXPORTS.—Formerly the patent medicines exported from Yokohama amounted to only about 3,000 yen a year in value, but last year the exports increased, and reached the total of 11,406 yen. The exports were to the following places: Shanghai, 1,107 yen; Hankow, 476 yen; Chemulpo, 244 yen; Victoria (British Columbia), 111 yen; Borneo, 7 yen; Manila, 142 yen; Tacoma, 30 yen; Canada, 20 yen; San Francisco, 619 yen; Hong-Kong, 98 yen; Tsensien 52 yen; Seoul, 107 yen; Singapore, 40 yen; Honolulu, 273 yen; Portland (Oregon), 32 yen; Seattle, 97 yen; and Marseilles (France), 1 yen.

A MALAY VOCABULARY.—An excellent book has just been published by Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, of Singapore, which should prove of great use not only to doctors, for whom it is primarily intended, but to chemists also, especially newcomers to this part of the world. The title is "A Vocabulary of Malay Medical Terms," and the author is Dr. P. N. Gerard, of the F.M.S. Medical Service. It contains the Malay terms for every disease, wounds, parts of the body, besides a list of useful conversations that might take place between a doctor and a patient. To the chemist-optician the Snellen's test types adapted into Malay should prove of great service.

ALCOHOL-DUTY INCREASED.—At a meeting of the Legislative Council held at Calcutta on January 26, a Bill was passed into law, taking effect immediately, to enhance the rate of duty on imported spirits from Rs. 6 per gal. of London proof, as at present, to Rs. 7 per gal. An important ruling by the Collector of Customs and Abkari at Bombay increases the spirit-duty on all colourless hair washes and lotions to Rs. 8 per gal. In this category the various eau de quinine alone escape. This step has been necessary by its being found that several native firms had been importing colourless hair-lotions perfumed with violets and such like, and retailing them as handkerchief perfumes, whereas as perfumes they should have come in on a higher scale of duty. The eau de quinine is exempted because if used as perfumes they would stain what they were put on. This misdemeanour on the part of dealers is likely to hit continental exporters to India very hard.

THE "SPANISH PRISONER" STILL AT WORK.—The well-worn "wheeze" of the Spanish prisoner is being practised among pharmacists in America.

American Notes.

(From our Correspondent.)

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.—Arrangements are being made to create a local branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association in the city of Chicago. Monthly meetings will be held, and it is hoped by this means to increase the interest in and the membership of the parent body. Doubtless other local branches will be formed in the cities throughout the country.

THE CHICAGO RETAIL DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION has changed its by-laws so that assistants can become members and can form an auxiliary organisation. This step is taken for the purpose of heading off the separate associations that clerks have been inclined to form in the United States during recent years. The new arrangement will make for harmony and co-operation.

THE FARBEINFABRIKEN OF ELBERFELD Co. are *persona non grata* to the druggists of the United States. Their products are sold in America at a price several times greater than is the case elsewhere. During the last year or so the "Druggists' Circular" has been indulging in editorial attacks upon the concern, and now a libel suit has been started against that journal for \$50,000 damages. A number of local druggists' associations throughout the country have expressed their sympathy with the "Circular."

AN ACTION HAS BEEN BROUGHT in Greater New York which will be watched with great interest. The Paris Medicine Co., which sells its products under the direct-contract plan, has sought to enjoin the Hegeman Corporation, large retailers owning seven stores, from securing the company's goods by indirection, mutilating the labels, and selling the articles at a cut-price. The Wells & Richardson Co. have likewise brought a similar action against Abraham & Strauss, department-store proprietors, of Brooklyn.

THE PROPRIETARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, alarmed that alien interests are about to seek legislation against patent medicines, and finding it necessary to meet the enemy half way, have decided to take the initiative in striving to secure legislation with respect to the presence of narcotics and alcohol in proprietary articles. A conference has been called in Chicago between the different branches of the drug-trade, and two Bills have been drawn up and adopted. One of them is practically the model Anti-narcotic Bill of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and thus incidentally the anti-narcotic reform is given a great impetus.

A PATENT-MEDICINE SCARE.—The Washington correspondent of the "Manchester Dispatch" states that Dr. W. H. Wiley, the chief of the Chemistry Bureau of the Department of Agriculture, has startled the American public by a declaration that more than three million infants are annually killed by ignorant or careless parents feeding them on impure milk and administering to them patent soothing-syrups and quack nostrums. President Roosevelt, whose interest in the question of population and physical development is well known, has been much impressed by the remarks of Dr. Wiley, and has ordered a thorough investigation into the matter. When sufficient information, backed by trustworthy facts and figures, is at hand, it is expected that legislative action will be taken to control the use of medicines for infants.

ANOTHER COMBINE RUMOUR.—The first definite information regarding the establishment of a chain of retail drug-stores in the leading American cities by the United Chemists' Co., the new \$10,000,000 drug corporation recently incorporated in New Jersey, has been furnished by the counsel for President George J. Whelen, of the United Cigar-stores Co., who is to become the head of the big drug combine. It is stated that the company has purchased four big retail drug-stores and secured options on several others. Mr. Whelen intends to resign from the presidency of the cigar combine and become the controlling factor in the drug combine, but the cigar company's methods are to be followed. Of even greater interest to the retail drug-trade, however, is the belief that the United Chemists' Co. will adopt a system of cutting prices on certain classes of drugs.

PHARMACEUTICAL and Research Chemist requires position in laboratory or literary department. "Demonstrator" (157/35, Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER (aged 27), good connection with doctors and chemists in Scotland, open to represent good firm or agencies; good references. 156/38, Office of this Paper.

PILL and Tablet Coating; experienced man seeks engagement; Chocolate, Sugar, Gelatine, Pearl, &c.; first-class work; long references. 153/15, Office of this Paper.

ACCOUNTANT, with good knowledge of Drug and Store Business, will arrange, keep and audit accounts; highest references; moderate terms. "Statist" (154/24), Office of this Paper.

ADVERTISER (30) desires permanency as Head of Department in good provincial house; 16 years' experience; thoroughly competent; references. 154/20, Office of this Paper.

ADVERTISER, aged 19 years, has had 3 years' experience in Assay and General Laboratory of London firm; desires a similar situation. Address, "A. B.," 79 The Avenue, Highams Park, Essex.

GENTLEMAN, qualified, long experience of Retail Trade, wishes to represent good house; Drugs, Proprietaries, Sundries, or Photographics; salary, &c. Apply. 155/26, Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER, with good connection in Scotland, South of England, and Wales, requires extra Commission; Drugs, speciality or Photographic; part expenses. "Chemist," Stanley Hotel, Aberdeen.

SMART qualified Chemist, with thorough knowledge of the trade and good Salesman, is open to represent good Speciality or General house; salary or commission. Address, "Commerce" (50/51), Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER (calling upon Medical men and Chemists in Wales and Monmouth-hire) desires part representation for good firm; instruments; leading speciality Perfumery, &c. Apply, 159/8, Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER desires engagement; experienced; reliable; capable; successful methods; able worker; excellent selling record, turnover and connection; qualified chemist. "Essential" 158/34, Office of this Paper.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Englishman with thorough knowledge of Spanish, about to start for the River Plate, and having a good connection amongst Wholesale Druggists and Chemists, wishes to represent reliable firms. 157/31, Office of this Paper.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Special charges are made for Advertisements under this heading, which can be obtained on application.

RE SAMUEL CROFT HARDY, Deceased.

PURSUANT to the Statute 22 and 23 Victoria, chapter 35, intitled "An Act to further amend the law of property and to relieve trustees," NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all creditors and other persons having any claims and demands against the ESTATE of SAMUEL CROFT HARDY, late of 8 Morella Road, Wandsworth Common, in the County of London, and of 177 Regent Street, in the County of London, Chemist (who died on the 16th day of November, 1905, and whose will was proved in the Principal Probate Registry of His Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 22nd day of December, 1905, by Mary Hardy, James Spearing, and Philip Edward Ewen, the executors therein named), are hereby required to send the particulars in writing of their claims and demands to us the undersigned, on or before the 17th day of March, 1906, after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice, and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 6th day of February, 1906.

LIDIARD, SON and BAKER,

7 Great James Street, Bedford Row, W.C.,

Solicitors for the said Executors.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CHEMISTS about opening new Premises.—We have positively the largest and finest Stock of Second-hand Fittings for sale at Unheard of Prices; drawings and full particulars on application; inspection invited; shops fitted completely. Rudduck & Co., Shop-fitters, 262 Old Street, London.

SHOP-FITTINGS.—12 ft. mahogany and plate-glass serving-counter, £9 10s.; 12 ft. high-class drug-fitting, solid mahogany-fronted drawers, bevelled glass labels and knobs, lockers, cornice shelving and pilasters, £12 10s.; 6 ft. wall show-case, solid mahogany pilasters, cornice, and adjustable shelves, £9 10s.; counter-drawers, with label spaces and paper drawers, 4 ft. long, 50s.; large quantities of dispensing-screens, perfumery-cases, centre cases, &c.; lowest prices.

PHILIP JOSEPHS & SON, 93 Old Street, London, E.C.

HENRY PICKARD, DECEASED.

PERSONS having any claims or demands against the estate of Mr. Henry Pickard, late of Stratton, Cornwall, Chemist, Druggist, Grocer and Seedsman, who died on the 6th February, 1906, are requested to forward particulars thereof to me as early as possible.

W. T. BLATCHFORD,

Stratton, North Cornwall,

Solicitor for the Executor.

Dated 10th February, 1906.

SOLD ALREADY: 104 GROSS in $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 gross lots with satisfaction.—Don't miss this chance; there are only a few gross left.—A manufacturer's bankrupt stock of real Elephant's Tusk Ivory Tooth-combs; guaranteed genuine grained ivory; $2\frac{1}{2}$ " by $1\frac{1}{2}$ "; all perfect; sell well at 1s. each; usual price about 8s. per doz., my price 2s. 6d. per doz., 2 doz. 4s. 6d., 3 doz. 6s., 6 doz. 11s., 20s. per gross; you can have sample doz. sent post free on receipt of P.O. or stamps for 2s. 6d. J. GINSBERG, Chemists' Sundryman, 105 Stoke Newington Road, London, N. A Real Good Bargain for Chemists.

CHEMISTS' SECOND-HAND SHOP FIXTURES.—Ranges of drawers, counters, dispensing screens, wall and show cases, shop rounds, and all requisites for Chemists; extensive stock; low prices; competent men sent anywhere; illustrated catalogues and estimates free. MATTHEWS, 14 and 16 Manchester Street, LIVERPOOL.

SHOP FITTINGS. SECOND-HAND FIXTURES.—Dispensing-screen, £4 10s.; wall-case, £4; desk-case, 30s.; glass-fronted counter, £8; counter-case, 22s.; and quantity of other fittings at unheard of prices. Write for sketches and particulars, WALTER KNOWLES & CO., 83 VICTORIA STREET, LIVERPOOL.

McQUEEN'S System of Accounts for Chemists; requires no knowledge of bookkeeping. A Chemist writes:—"My experience is that Chemists as a rule are wretched bookkeepers (myself included), but if they can be brought to use your A B C system, as I am doing, that reproach will certainly be removed." Particulars, post free, McQueen & Sons, Devana Road, Leicester.

A FIRST-CLASS CONTINENTAL FIRM in the Pharmaceutical line would like to find a well-known English firm who would manufacture in England an excellent dietetic sociality (breakfast beverage, substitute for tea, coffee, and cocoa), highly recommended by the medical profession; great success on the Continent; proved rent-ability; splendid future prospects. 218/36, Office of this Paper.

IS BUSINESS BAD? Then write me; I will show you how I did, and how you can, in defiance of any competition, at an expense of 5 per cent. on your turnover, add at least £1 a week to your profit; my fee is small, and I prove my words or return it. "Business Builder," 96 Hill Top, W. Bromwich.

GREAT Bargains in Secondhand Shop Fittings.—120 recess label rounds (job), £7; 12 4 lb. pink jars, gold labelled, 42s.; 1 set of 3 plate-glass shelves with standard brackets for centre of window, 30s.; 1 4-ft. dispensing-screen, 65s.; 1 6-ft. ditto, with mirror centre, £5 10s.; 144 stopper-rounds, gold-labelled, 90s.; 1 9-ft. range of 28 counter-drawers, 65s.; 14 ft. 6 in. ditto of 14 ditto, 35s.; 84-40 of N.W. rounds, 42s.; 12-ft. range of mahogany drawers, with glass labels, £8 10s.; 12-ft. ditto, pine drawers, gold-labelled, £6. R. TOMLINSON & SONS, Headquarters for Secondhand Fittings, Bond Street, Birmingham.

McADAM & TUCKNISS, Sharedealers, 30 Tranquil Vale, Blackheath, London, S.E. Telephone 81 Lee Green.

SHARES FOR SALE (free of commission, subject).—177 G. B. Kent & Sons' Preference, 19s. 6d.; 40 Vi Cocca Preference, 16s. 9d.; 50 Mazawattee Preference, 59s. 6d.; 200 Ordinary, 6s. 10d.; 250 A J. White Preference, 8s. 6d.; 120 Ordinary, 2s. 4d.; 50 Vinolia Preference, 93s.; dividend due April; 100 Peek, Frean Preference, 21s. 7d.; 200 F. Sage Ordinary, 20s. 3d., with dividend due March, 20s. 5d. per cent. Preference, 19s. 10d., next dividend due March; 100 Bovril Deferred, 11s. 7d., c.d.; 50 Idris "A" Ordinary, 28s.

WANTED (subject).—Horace Cory Ordinary, 19s. 9d.; 50 Camwal Ordinary, 5s. 12s. Preference, 12s. 4d.; 100 Idris "A" Preference, 21s. 3d.; 74 Blensdale, 80s. c.d.

List of shares for sale and wanted sent free on application. Bankers, London and County. Established 1898.

CHEMISTS requiring full or part time Assistants now or in the near future should write to Secretary, Westminster College, Trinity Square, Borough, S.E.

CHEMIST'S Drug Fittings, second-hand; drawers, glass labels and knobs, lockers, shelves, cornice 12 ft. long, £12; Dispensing counter, upright cases each side, mirror centre to ground, drawers at back 6 ft. long, £10; 7-ft. wall case, £10; desk and perfume case, 50s.; 10 ft. counter, 70s.; glass shelves shaped with fittings complete, 18 in., 15 in., 12 in. wide, 3 ft. long, 50s. TREBLE & CO., Complete Shop Fitters, Rectory Works, Rendlesham Road, Clapton, London, N.E.

A GOOD GIFT.

A NICE Birthday present for a Chemist and Druggist, or apprentice or assistant to one, is a copy of "The Art of Dispensing" or "Pharmaceutical Formulas," bound in half-morocco. The first-named, thus bound, is 8s. 6d., and the second 12s. 6d., with 6d. postage, both being obtainable from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

London Chamber of Commerce.

THE annual meeting of the chemical trade section of the Chamber was held at the offices, Oxford Court, E.C., on February 13, among those present being Mr. J. C. Umney (Chairman) and Messrs. W. Layman Carry, jun., R. P. Gosnell, D. Lloyd Howard, H. Finnes Johnson (Borax Consolidated), F. H. Lescher, H. Ayscough Thompson, T. Tyrer, and R. C. Wren (Potter & Clarke). The minutes of the previous meeting, held in June 1904, having been read, the Chairman feelingly referred to the loss the Chamber had sustained by the death of Mr. Thomas Christy, who had been a leading member of the Chemical Trade Section.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

On the motion of Mr. Tyrer, seconded by Mr. Lescher, Mr. J. C. Umney was re-elected Chairman, and Mr. D. Lloyd Howard Deputy-Chairman. Mr. Tyrer was appointed to represent the Section at the International Congress of Applied Chemistry.

UNTAXED ALCOHOL.

The Chairman, in considering the present position of this question, alluded to the Departmental Committee's report and the recommendations, regretting that the latter had not passed into law; but they were, perhaps, more hopeful. It would, however, be as well to memorialise the Chancellor of the Exchequer with the view of getting legislation in regard to the recommendations. He presumed the Chancellor would receive from the permanent officials of the different departments some report as to how the matter stands, but he (the Chairman) thought that a distinct and separate memorial from themselves should be submitted.

Mr. Tyrer reminded the meeting that on November 2, 1905, he gave notice of a motion to the following effect:

That this Council regrets that the Revenue Bill introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the last Session of Parliament was not passed into law, and trusts that the Chancellor will, at the earliest opportunity, take steps to embody the clauses in Part I. in a Bill. The Council further desires to express the opinion that the passing of a Bill embodying the recommendation of the Industrial Alcohol Committee will materially increase the facilities to chemical manufacturers in competing with foreign rivals. A copy of this resolution to be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and to each member of the Government.

He thought that a copy of the above, or even something more emphatic, should be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and every member of the Government, so that there should be no excuse. He suggested that the Joint Committee of the Society of Chemical Industry and the Chemical Section of the Chamber should co-operate with all the other associations interested in alcohol, not forgetting the Farmers' Club. Mr. Tyrer alluded to the opposition which the recommendations of the Industrial Alcohol Committee had met with in Parliament, and the lack of appreciation on the part of certain members, who had injudiciously exercised their private right in blocking motions.

The Chairman suggested that a small sub-committee be appointed to draft the resolution, and it was ultimately decided that this should be left to Messrs. Tyrer, Webb, and David Howard.

SALE OF POISONS.

The Chairman announced that the Chamber had received a letter from a firm of drysalterers relative to the official warning issued by the Pharmaceutical Society to qualified chemists, referring to recent additions made to the Schedule of Poisons. The writer of the letter stated that the Pharmaceutical Society by their action were endeavouring to destroy the drysalter trade, and, in fact, looked upon themselves as practically official advisers to the Government, for the private benefit of the chemist. He suggested the matter should be brought before a committee of the Chamber. The Chairman said he called upon the writer, and explained that the best interests of drysalterers would be served by following out the recommendations made by the Society, and it would probably result in the better handling of dangerous substances not scheduled as poisons.

Mr. Lescher thought they need not take any action in the matter, as Mr. Umney's course was the right one.

The Chairman said the chief objections were in regard to

strong solution of ammonia, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, and bichromate of potash, and he told the writer there would be little likelihood of these being added to the Poisons Schedule.

Mr. R. C. Wren said the references in the letter were to such things as nitric, sulphuric, hydrochloric acids, etc., which are used in commercial quantities. He looked upon it as an attempt of the Pharmaceutical Society to get them placed on the Poisons Schedule.

The Chairman said the list of articles in question had been submitted to the Pharmaceutical Society by coroners, and the Society were bound to take notice of them, although knowing quite well that the Privy Council would not accept them. His own view as a wholesale druggist was that much greater care would be used in the handling of these substances.

Mr. Wren did not see the good of the Pharmaceutical Society submitting these recommendations if they knew the Privy Council would not schedule them.

The Chairman: Everything listed in that Schedule are articles solely used in medicine, and the Pharmaceutical Society has no desire whatever to curtail their use. Speaking as a trader and as Chairman of the Chemical Section, he would undertake to watch any further developments in a broad and absolutely fair-minded manner.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

The Chairman said it had been proposed to form a sub-section of the Chamber to safeguard the interests of those who are interested in the manufacture and sale of patent or proprietary goods (including dietetic articles, foods for infants and invalids, medicines, soaps, and toilet preparations). It would only be a small affair, but the need of such a body was felt recently in connection with the declarations of constituents of certain proprietary medicines in some of the Colonies. Such a difficulty arose with New Zealand; the matter was taken up by the P.A.T.A., but it was felt that a body dealing with price-protection was not quite suitable, and that something on broader lines is wanted. The question of trade-marks would also come under this sub-section.

Mr. Tyrer and Mr. Lescher both agreed that such a sub-section was desirable, and a resolution to this effect was adopted.

RAILWAY RATES.

Mr. Tyrer said there was a disposition on the part of railway companies, as a result of pegging away, to reconsider their position as a hindrance to British trade. There were two ways of looking at the question of railway rates: (1) The well-known fact that from somewhere in Germany to Birmingham the rates are cheaper than from London to Birmingham, the same kind of thing applying outwards; (2) the extraordinary differentiation made between articles that are similar in some cases and widely different in others—they are classified as "dangerous" when they are not dangerous, and equally dangerous goods are treated in an entirely different schedule. The answers that one gets on asking Why? are ridiculous in the extreme, and any appeals, up to a comparatively recent period, have been entirely unsuccessful. Mr. Tyrer suggested a small committee to consider the whole position, get up a case, and present it to the Chamber, when probably some pressure could be brought to bear in the way of obtaining some amendment of the general classification in the interests of traders.

In accordance with this suggestion Messrs. Tyrer, White, Webb, and Wren were appointed a committee.

Mr. Tyrer also drew attention to the proposed trade-marks rules (*C. & D.*, February 10, p. 221) and Mr. J. Evans Jackson's statement in the "Times" about the absurdity of some of the fees, and moved that strong representations should be made to the Board of Trade. This was agreed to.

IT IS SAID that a certain amount of prepared opium is smuggled regularly from Amoy to the Straits Settlements. Some 300 piculs thus left the port last year.

ONE man at a banquet of humourists refused to smile at even the best jokes. "Why don't you laugh?" asked his neighbour. "How can I, when I remember that every time I breathe someone passes into the great beyond?" The humourist looked at the gloomy one a moment, then remarked, "Did you ever try cloves?"

Conundrum Column.



What Medicine does this Mean?

SUBSCRIBERS and their employes or members of their families will please write replies in rhyme on postcards. None received after Wednesday, February 21. We shall give another facsimile prescription next week.

Personalities.

BRO. C. B. THACKER, chemist, Hadleigh, Suffolk, was installed W.M. of Lodge "Virtue and Silence" No. 332, on February 7.

MR. J. YOUNG, chemist and druggist, Torquay, has been elected without opposition as a member of the Torquay Town Council for the Chelston Ward.

ALDERMAN F. BIRD, chemist and druggist, Coventry, has been reappointed as a representative member of the Court of Governors of Birmingham University.

MRS. ECCLESTON BURROWS, who presented her husband (Chairman of Vinolia, Ltd.) with a son and heir ten days ago, is making very satisfactory progress.

MR. LEONARD SALTER, representative of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., of London, has removed from 6 The Avenue to 12 Azalea Avenue, Sunderland.

MR. EDWARD JAMES BISHOP, chemist and druggist, of Kyrk House, Upper Folkestone Road, Folkestone, has been elected to the Folkestone Town Council with a majority of 202 votes over his opponent.

MR. PAGE WOODCOCK on leaving Lincoln for London was presented by the Lincoln High Street Wesleyan Circuit with a gold watch and books, and Mrs. Woodcock received a solid silver salver, the gifts being in appreciation of the services they had given to the denomination.

THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL have decided to confer the freedom of the borough on Alderman T. Scott Foster, chemist and druggist, in recognition of his thirty years' devoted service to the town. Mr. Foster has been twice Mayor, has served on the Burial Board, the School Board, and the Board of Guardians.

OWING to the critical state of his wife's health, Mr. W. T. Mignot Tucker, chemist and druggist, has left Kingsbridge, Devon, amid the general regret of the inhabitants among whom he was very popular. Mr. Tucker has been twelve years in Kingsbridge, having taken over the old-established

business of the late Mr. W. H. Troake. Mr. Tucker took a keen interest in the affairs of the town and district.

PROFESSOR M. C. PORTER, M.C., of Newcastle College of Science, has written the article on the botany of Durham for the last issued volume of the Victoria History of the Counties of England. The article extends to forty-seven pages, and begins with a description of the general physical character of the county, notes on the botanical districts follow, and complete lists of plants found in the county.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Monday, February 19.

Plymouth, Devonport, Stenhouse, and District Chemists' Association, 7 Whimble Street, at 8 p.m. Quarterly meeting.

Tuesday, February 20.

Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association, Calvert's Café, Long Row, at 9 p.m. Mr. S. Royce on "Colloids."

Bradford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, Darley Street, at 9 p.m. Lantern-lecture by Mr. R. W. Silson on "Switzerland."

Wednesday, February 21.

Assistants of the Society of Apothecaries, Court-room, Apothecaries' Hall, Blackfriars, E.C., at 8 p.m. Meeting for the purpose of founding an association, confirming constitution and rules, and enrolling members.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, North British Branch, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8.30 p.m. Evening meeting. "The Ash-percentage and its Composition in Euonymin, Iridin, Leptandrin, and Podophyllin," by Messrs. W. B. Cowie and Dickson; "Incompatibility of Compound Tincture of Cardamoms with Alkaloidal Salts and Bismuth Mixtures," by Mr. A. McCutcheon; "Note on a Strychnine Mixture," by Mr. J. R. Hill.

Western Chemists' Association, Norfolk Square Hotel, London Street, Paddington, W., at 9 p.m. Mr. J. R. Cornish, President of the Society of Chemist-opticians, on "Chemists as Opticians."

London Chemists' Association, South London Branch, The Horns, Kennington, at 3.30 p.m. Mr. J. W. Douglas on "Breaking Bulk."

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 p.m. Mr. H. Taverner on "An Improved Method of Taking Stereo-photo-micrographs and of Mounting the Prints."

Thames Valley Chemists' Association, Freemasons' Club, Richmond (near L.S.W.R. Station), at 7 p.m. Whist-drive. Tickets (ladies or gentlemen, 2s. 6d. each) can be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. J. Uglow Woolcock, 6 Western Promenade, Hounslow.

Junior Pharmacy Ball, Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. First dance will commence at 9 p.m. Tickets (including supper and light refreshments during the evening), 7s. 6d. each, from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Percival Trick, Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C., or from any of the committee.

Thursday, February 22.

Barnsley Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, at 7 p.m. Ordinary meeting.

Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland, 11 Waring Street, Belfast, at 8 p.m. Annual social meeting.

Cheltenham Chemists' Association, Constitutional Club Rooms, at 9 p.m. Consideration of a suggestion as to compiling a Formulary.

Liverpool Chemists' Association, Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, at 8 p.m. Mr. Edwin Thompson on "Tablet-making for the Retail Pharmacist."

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 p.m. Ordinary meeting.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society. Annual ball.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Liverpool Chemists' Association will be held on March 15, instead of February 22 as originally intended. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (Mr. R. A. Robinson) is to be present.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the past and present students of the School of Pharmacy of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will be held in the Balmoral Room of the Trocadero Restaurant, Shaftesbury Avenue, W., on February 28, at 7.30 p.m. Dr. John Attfield will be in the chair. Tickets (price 6s.) can be had on application to Messrs. H. Adams and Charles S. White, Hon. Secretaries, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

PARTNERSHIPS.

PARTNER, to run a small Wholesale (calling upon little shops), in conjunction with an old-established Chemist and Druggist's Business in a densely populated manufacturing town surrounded by villages and other towns; no qualification necessary; small capital only required (£150); premises well adapted; no previous knowledge necessary; only good worker. 156/19, Office of this Paper.

AGENCIES.

HOLLAND—Experienced Agent, well in with all the principal Chemists, Druggists, and Drysalters. Is open to represent suitable English Agencies for Holland and the Dutch Colonies. Offers to "D. S.," 5 Gutter Lane, E.C.

SOUTH AFRICA.—Wholesale Agents.—We are open to handle anything connected with the Drug trade—Chemicals, Drugs, Proprietary Articles, Bottles, Photographic and General Sundries; show samples or carry stock; terms on application; banker's references. "Chemist," Box 207, Oape Town.

A REMUNERATIVE Side line is offered smart Agents having sound connection amongst Retail Chemists; liberal commission; won't interfere with existing commissions; knowledge of Retailers' advertising a qualification. Write, stating ground covered, to Reid, 1 Greenwood Street, Manchester.

AGENCIES.—Late Buyer of Drugs, Perfumes, &c., with office in the City, would be pleased to hear of good Agencies. "Essence" (159/16), Office of this Paper.

WANTED. Agents and Travellers for a first-class and highly remunerative Side-line; used in every household and sold by Chemists, Oilmen, and Grocers everywhere. Apply, 150/10, Office of this Paper.

Exchange Column—Bargains.

TERMS.

One halfpenny per word with name and address. One penny per word if we register the address and attach a number.
No Advertisement inserted for less than 6d.

BUYERS AND SELLERS, PLEASE NOTE.

We again call the attention of those who use this column for the sale or purchase of goods to the desirability of using our Deposit System. Some forward goods before they receive money for them, and others forward money to advertisers before they have even seen the goods. Disappointment in such circumstances is bound to happen now and then, and it is to prevent this, as well as to check fraud, that our Deposit System was instituted.

All that is necessary when a bargain is struck, or is likely to be, is for the buyer to send us a cheque, or Post Office Order, for the price which he has agreed to pay for the goods. A commission of 6d. is charged by us on any transaction of £3 or less, and 1s. if above that amount. The Commission is payable by the purchaser, and should be included in the money sent to us.

When we hear from the buyer that the goods are satisfactory, and not till then, we hand over the money to the seller. The interests of the latter are secured by the fact that he does not despatch the goods to the buyer until he hears from us that we have received the money.

This System was instituted solely for the protection of our readers, and it has so often been of real service that it should be more generally used. All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to "Edward Halse," and crossed "Martin's Bank, Ltd."

FOR DISPOSAL.

APPARATUS.

For sale.—Two copper steam-jacketed pans, lined with pure tin, about 2 ft. 4 in. diameter inside. BENNETT SONS & SHEARS, LTD., 167 Kingsland Road, N.E.

For sale.—Analytical balance, in glass case, by Beckers Sons, of Rotterdam, with complete set of weights and other appurtenances; no reasonable offer refused. Apply, 2 Gloucester Walk, Kensington.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Half-dozen De Jongh's 2s. 6d. cod-liver oil; 1 only Horsford's acid phosphates; 10s. 6d. lot. RICHARDSON BROS., Portadown.

OPTICAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC.

"Guinea" Midget camera and tripod, new condition, 16s. DENT, 58 Hinckley Road, Leicester.

150 mounts, centre 12 x 10, board 18 x 14, white, cream centre; Marion's list 436 A.; 15s., carriage forward. BECKETT, Wem, Salop.

Lancaster 1-plate instantograph; 3 slides; R.R. lens, working F. 8 Thornton-Pickard time and instantaneous shutter; 30s. "Chemist," 65 Chamberlayne Wood Road, Kensal Rise.

SHARES.

Shares for Sale.—See p. 65.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

3 doz. Southall's Puritan marking-ink, 6d.; 2s. 10d. doz., perfect. ROWE, Arklow.

Offers.—36 Munyon's cures, 9 emergency books, 24 Arabella water, 60 Fairbank's soap. GRIFFITH, Chichester.

Overstocked.—11 doz. 2½d. Cowana soap, 7 doz. 4d., 1 doz. 6d. shaving cakes. 28s. the lot; carriage paid. LLOYD, Chemist, Teddington.

What offers? 8 2s. 6d., 4 4s. 6d. chemist's emulsion; 10 1s. 1½d. "Werdyma" tablets; 24 4-oz. Barnett's Cologne (never opened). 156/30, Office of this Paper.

SHOP FITTINGS.

Laboratory bench, 8 ft. (suitable also for hack shop or warehouse), with sink in centre, drawers and cupboards below, and shelves above; strong and well made; £3. WIGGIE, Chemist, Ipswich.

Offers wanted for good mahogany fittings of shop: dimensions, 21 ft. x 14 ft.; dispensing-screen, 7½ ft.; counter, 10½ ft.; 2 hent-glass counter-cases, each 21 ft.; wall-cases, 5½ ft. x 3½ ft.; range of 38 drawers, 7½ ft. long; ditto, 28 drawers, 5½ ft.; ditto, 22 drawers, 4 ft.; shelving; 2 window-enclosures; upright show-case, 2½ ft. x 2 ft.; 4 carbons, enphboards, 190 shop-rounds, jars, 3 pairs scales, mortars, desk; will sell cheap. BECKETT, Wem, Salop.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Two dental chairs for sale, cheap. Messrs. DENT, 58 Hinckley Road, Leicester.

Full-size water-bed; cost £6 10s.; new in November; non-infectious case. Offers to GREIG, Chemist, Mayhole.

Jahncke's metallic boxes, 2 in. by ½ in. round (in outers); 58 dozens; 25s. lot; offers. 22 Waldegrave Road, Brighton.

Edison "Gem" reprograph with "C" reproducer, secondhand, 35s.; also 100 records, nearly new, 8s. doz. List. WOOLLONS, Chemist, 28 Kilburn Lane, W.

(1) **American soda fountain**, cost £40; (2) 3 doz. 1s. Dr. Grave's tooth powder; (3) quantity photo mounts; what offers? "C.," 2 Abbey Parade, Herne Hill.

Two Edison-Bell (Gem) phonographs; 20 doz. Edison-Bell gold-mounted records (all new); what offers? whole or part. "Chemist," 19 Chesterfield Road, Sheffield.

WANTED.

Moonseed ointment; half doz. or less required. Gedge, Chemist, Bath. Old artificial teeth bought; cash return post. Messrs. DENT, 58 Hinckley Road, Leicester.

Minor, Major, chemists' books; for cash or exchange. GOWER, Bookseller, Waterloo, Liverpool.

Stock and fixtures (mod.), for corner pharmacy. Particulars to Foulston, Burnham, Bucks.

Squire's "Companion"; latest large edition; good copy; state lowest price. Rice, 42 Parade, Leamington.

Two or three cheap check-tills wanted, Gledhill or O'Brien type. Particulars to RICHARDS, 49 Elspeth Road, Clapham Common, S.W.

Will's "Chemistry," Will's "Volumetric Analysis," Lawson's "Botany," Address, W. J. ROBERTSON, 26 Berridge Road, Sheerness-on-Sea.

Check-till in good condition; O'Brien's or Gledhill's preferred. State size, WARDLEY & OLARKE, Chemists, Tonbridge.